

## MTAC Mail Prep & Entry Focus Group

August 28, 2013



# MTAC Mail Prep & Entry Focus Group Periodicals Track

August 28, 2013

#### Periodicals Track

- Action Items from Last Meeting
- Engineering Technology Update
- Workgroup Updates
- MTEOR Update
- Mail Prep & Entry Steering Committee Update
- Update on Flats Strategy
- Network Rationalization Open Discussion
- Mail Direction File & Labeling Lists Discussion
- Open Discussion



- Action Items from Last Meeting
  - Update on APPS Singulation Enhancement Pilot
  - Field trip to Dulles Flats Feeder Test
  - Re-issue policy to CFS site on obiliterating barcodes
  - Evaluate data on bundles being manually sorted
  - Evaluate what level of data can be provided on AFSM/FSS barcode quality and readability



## Flat Imb Read Rate





#### **Analysis of IMb scans**

- Conducted read rate analysis from 5 different facilities
  - Mail piece images were collected from AFSM100 and FSS machines
  - Samples of collected images were inspected (truthed) for the presence of IM barcode
    - Based on an approximate sample size of 7,500 pieces for each machine type
  - The truthed images were matched against machine logs to validate scan results
- IMb read rate results:

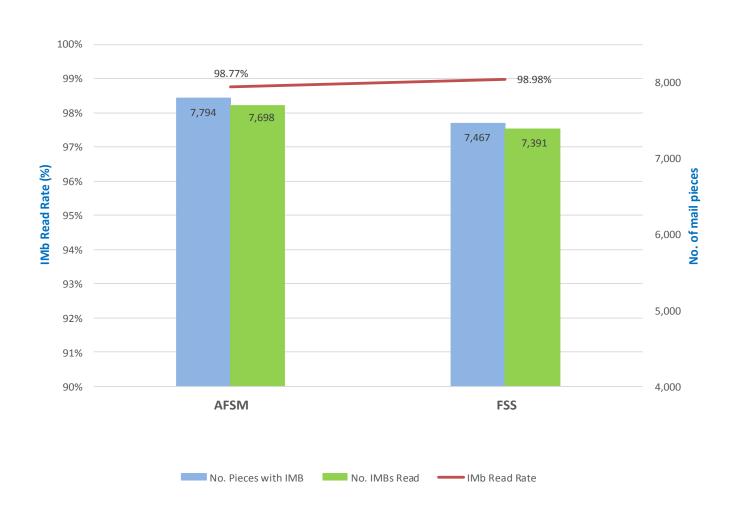
■ **AFSM100**: 98.77%

• **FSS**: 98.98%



## **IMb Read Rate Analysis**

#### **IMb Read Rate by Machine Type**



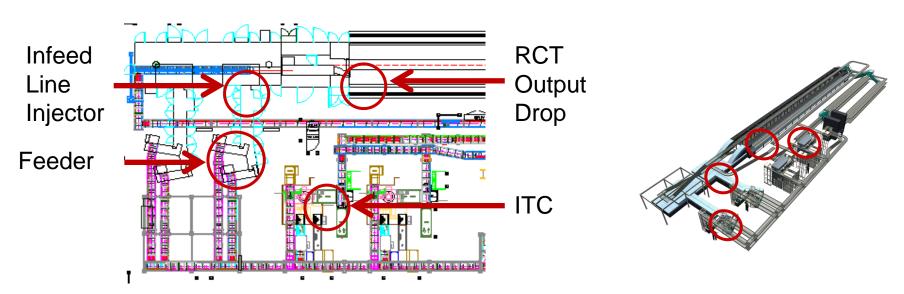


## **Engineering Technology Update**



#### Committed to improving FSS handling of flat mail

- Mail characteristics trend towards lighter and thinner mailings
- Extensive studies on mail damage resulted in 4 areas of focus
  - Feeders (4 per system)
  - Infeed Line Injectors (2 per system)
  - RCT Output Drops (360 per system)
  - ITCs (2 per system)
- Next slides show mail handling improvements





## **FSS Mail Handling Improvements**

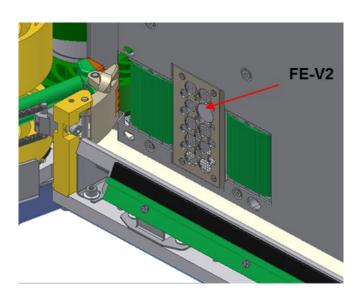
- Feeder Testing complete Final/Best Configuration (Test G & L)
  - Improvements: No Constant Vacuum, new vacuum plate, improved AI Software,
     V2 Sensor moved ~ 1 in and adjust to 6 mm sensing range for better stack
     management
  - Average Damage 2 reduction >33% (baseline of 0.48%)
  - Average Damage 3 reduction >66% (baseline of 0.036%)
  - Test L = Test G. Test G was done on IL2 and Test L was done in IL1

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Test		Baseline			Modified				% Change			
	Pieces	D2	D3	D2 %	D3 %	Pieces	D2	D3	D2 %	D3 %	D2 %	D3 %
G (Same as Config E with E3&E4 V2 is												
adjusted 6mm from pick plate)	12279	30	2	0.24%	0.02%	11763	25	1	0.21%	0.01%	-13.02%	-47.81%
H (Same as G - V2 is adjusted 9mm												
from pick plate)	4728	12	3	0.25%	0.06%	3960	30	0	0.76%	0.00%	198.43%	-100.00%
I (Same as G - except V2 is adjusted												
11mm from pick plate	4758	5	0	0.11%	0.00%	4698	2	0	0.04%	0.00%	-59.49%	0.00%
J (Same as I with stack correction												
camera active)	2042	8	0	0.39%	0.00%	1901	5	0	0.26%	0.00%	-32.89%	0.00%
K (Same as J with V2 back to 6mm)	7274	8	0	0.11%	0.00%	7362	7	1	0.10%	0.01%	-13.56%	0.00%
L (mod moved to IL1)	10101	78	6	0.77%	0.06%	10973	33	1	0.30%	0.01%	-61.06%	-84.66%
M (RJ Camera IL1)	1541	10	1	0.65%	0.06%	1291	2	0	0.15%	0.00%	-76.14%	-100.00%

## **FSS Mail Handling Improvements**

#### Feeder Improvement Background

- Constant Vacuum
  - Removing constant vacuum (require new plate) enables feeder to stand mail up at destacker plate which minimizes damage
- Al Software
  - Faster AI reaction time
  - Al Paddle synches up mail more effectively
  - Allows Auto Paddle to move closer to destacker plate
- V2 Sensor
  - Adjust positioning and sensing range of the V2 sensor for better stack management





## **FSS Mail Handling Improvements**

#### Continued to implement design improvements

- Deployed 12 hardware Modification Kits
- 20 more hardware Mod Kits planned

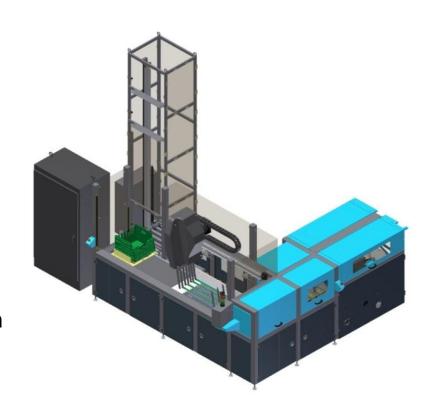
#### FSS SW v3.1 - deploy Fall 2013 (Sept/Oct)

- SW changes at feeder to better control stack quality and have gentler pick off of Low "Run Stiffness" Mail
- SW changes at Infeed Line for better injection into Carousel of Low "Run Stiffness" Mail to minimize flipped mail
- New Separation Belts planned for Fall 2013 (Oct/Nov)
- Mail Stack Quality at Feeders planned for Fall 2013 (Oct/Nov)
  - Adding 3 HW modifications at feeder to better control stack quality and have gentler pick off of Low "Run Stiffness" Mail
- Infeed Line Injector planned for Fall 2013 (Oct/Nov)
  - Adding 2 HW mods at Infeed Line for better injection into Carousel of Low "Run Stiffness" Mail to minimize flipped mail



## **Key Features**

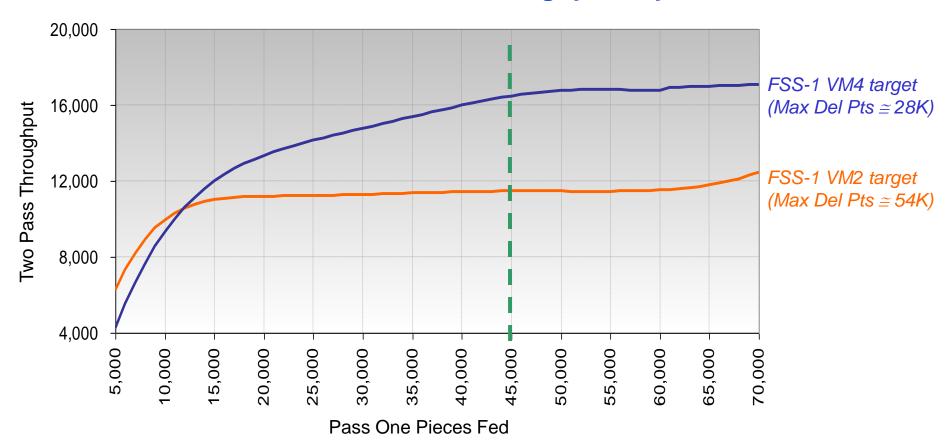
- Increase Flats Sequencing System (FSS) efficiency in the virtual machine 2 (VM2) mode
- Achieve a throughput of 6 pieces per second (double that of the current FSS feeder), reducing the number of FSS feeders from four to two
  - Allows VM2 mode, with increased delivery points per sort plan, to maintain the same throughput as the VM4 mode
- Reduce the number of double feeds, decrease mail damage, and minimize manual intervention while feeding mail





#### **Operational Benefits to FSS**

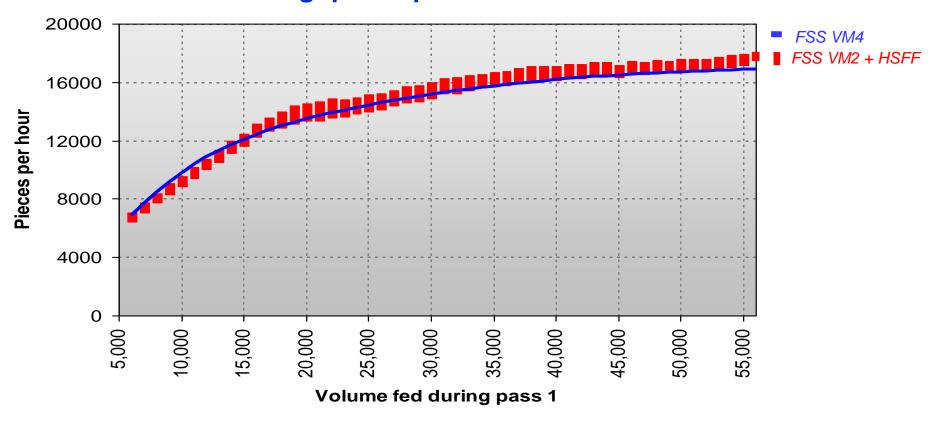
#### **FSS Phase 1 With Four Feeders: Throughput Expectations**





#### **Operational Benefits to FSS**

#### **FSS + HSFF: Throughput Expectations**



With 95% confidence, FSS machines equipped with HSFFs and running in VM2 mode will perform at the same 2-pass throughput rate as VM4



#### **R&D Evaluation Plan**

<ul><li>Install HSFF (Co</li></ul>	npleted)	Jun 14
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- "Live" mail evaluation (started)Jun 15
- Check Point 1Sep 16
- Continue "Live" mail evaluation
  - Through Fall mailing season
- Check Point 2Dec 9
- End "Live" mail Evaluation
   Jan 2014

#### **Dulles FSS Machine Comparison All Runs**

Average Throughput – All Runs (August 1, 2013 – August 21, 2013)



#### **Dulles FSS Machine Comparison All Runs**

Machine Operational Time August 1, 2013 – August 21, 2013





## **Future Benefits | Production**

- Increased Mail Volume Processed Per day
  - FSS machines with HSFF | no additional changes
    - Process current mail with less sort plans, in less hours
  - FSS machines with HSFF | with changes
    - Re-pack / Add sort plans
      - Service more Zip Codes | Delivery Points
- Decreased mail damage
- Reduced double feeds | Improved Accept Rate



#### **Forward Plan**

## Pre-Production system evaluation

	Complete	Technical	Data Package	Sep 2013
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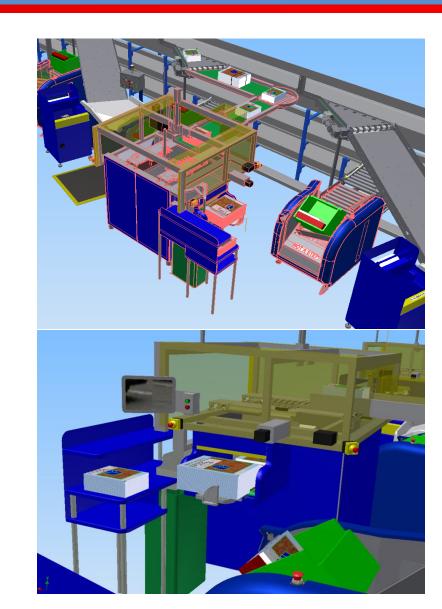
- Complete field validation
   Jan 2014
  - Dulles P&DC
- RFP Spring 2014
- Contract Award
   Summer 2014
- Deployment Spring 2015



## **Flats Bundle Preparation**

#### Flats Preparation Operations

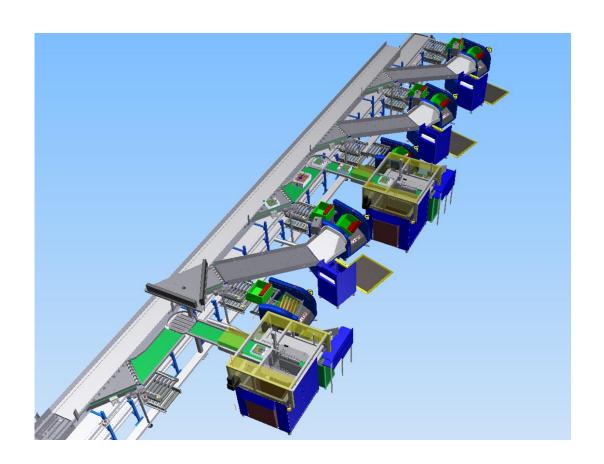
- Evaluating feasibility of flats prep technology to reduce cost and increase productivity
  - Operator Assist technology cutting of straps and removal of poly material from flat bundles
  - Automate loading of flat mail into ACT trays





## **Flats Bundle Preparation**

#### Flats Preparation Operations – SAMP Interface



## **APPS Singulation Enhancement**

#### Current status

- Design & drawings completed
- Parts ordered & received
- Mockup of the APPS Singulator built
- Fabrication completed May
- Assembled onto mockup & adjusted preliminary design June
- Assembled onto Production APPS machine in Washington NDC July
- Tested at Washington NDC July
- Ordering parts and starting fabrication of pre-production unit August

#### Next steps

- Adjust Final Design August
- Generate install manual and Finalize August
- Complete build of pre-production Unit early September
- Start building production quantities September
- Start shipping/installing Fall mailing season



## **Workgroup Updates**

 WG 156 – Utilizing the Mail Optimization Matrix (MOP)

WG 157 – Load Leveling

■ WG 159 - HUBs

■ UG 7 – MTEOR



- Utilizing the MOP to identify and organize improvement opportunities
  - Current Status
    - Workgroup meetings complete
    - MOP and supporting documents developed
    - Created prioritized list of opportunities
  - Final Step
    - Compete templates for submission of top opportunities to Mail Prep and Entry Steering Committee



## MTAC Load Leveling Workgroup 157



## MTAC Workgroup 157 consists of:

- First Class, Standard and Periodical Mailers
- Mail Providers, Mail Owners
- Software venders

#### Charter

- Review the current processes and procedures for the load leveling of volumes across days of the week.
- Strategize on future initiatives that would meet the objective of load leveling volumes across days of week.
- Analyze future possible initiatives in a cost/benefit format to provide viable recommendations to the Postal Service.



## **Desired Results from WG 157**

- Develop strategies that will facilitate the load leveling of volume across days of the week.
- Model the impact of each strategy on the mail owners, software venders, logistics and transportation providers, USPS operations and mail entry.
- Evaluate strategies for potential adoption and implementation.
- Recommend and/or establish guidelines for the consistent and predictable collection and dissemination of information, including updates for stakeholders.
- Gain a clearer understanding of stakeholders' expectations
- Identify/define potential technical or process changes that are needed by the mailing industry to accommodate the potential impact of load leveling.



## **Today's Environment**

#### **SCF Standard Drops - Current**

				/8		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Color code for	Color code for	Color code for Friday	Collor code for	All Day is color	Color code for	Color code for
Wednesday until	Thursday until 1600	until 1600	Saturday until 1600	coded for Monday	Monday until 1600	Tuesday until 1600
1600						
1600 - Thurs Violet	1600 - Fri Yellow	1600- Sat Pink	1600 - Monday		1600 - Tues Orange	1600 - Wed Green

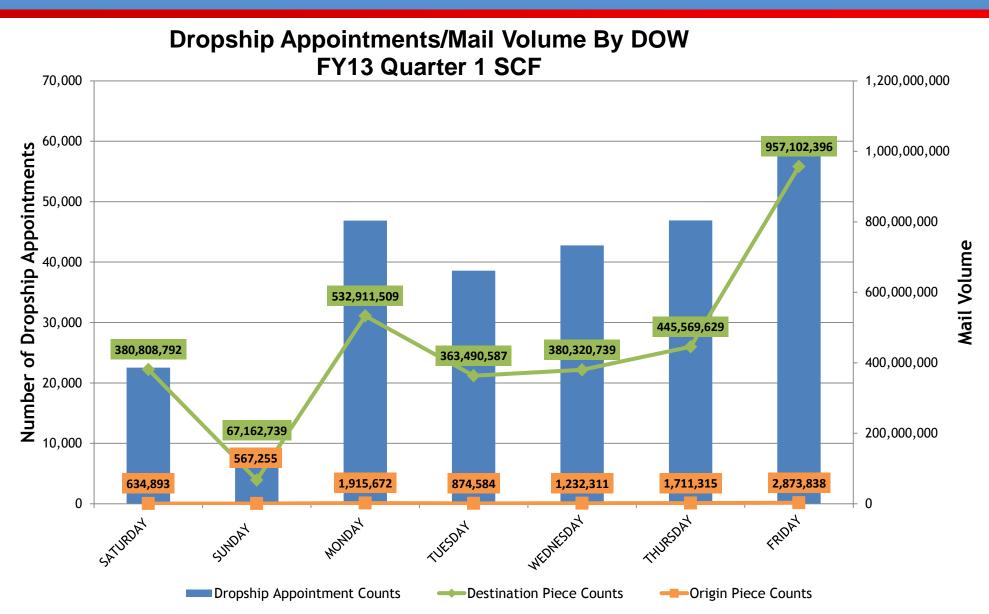
#### **NDC Standard Drops - Current**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Color code for Friday	Color code for	All Day we color	Color code for	Color code for	Color code for	Color code for
until 1600	Saturday until 1600	code for Monday	Monday until 1600	Tuesday until 1600	Wednesday until	Thursday until 1600
					1600	
1600 - Sat Pink	1600 - Monday Blue		1600 - Tues Orange	1600 - Wed green	1600 - Thurs Violet	1600 - Fri Yellow

Most of the mail whether dropped at the SCF or NDC is earmarked for delivery on Monday



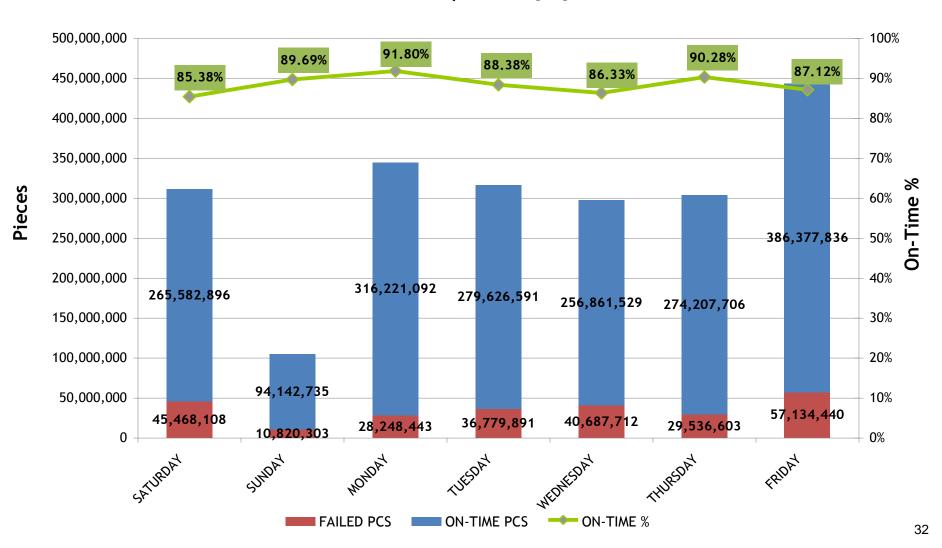
#### DROP SHIP APPOINTMENTS AT SCF PQ 1





#### **Service - Standard Letters - SCF**

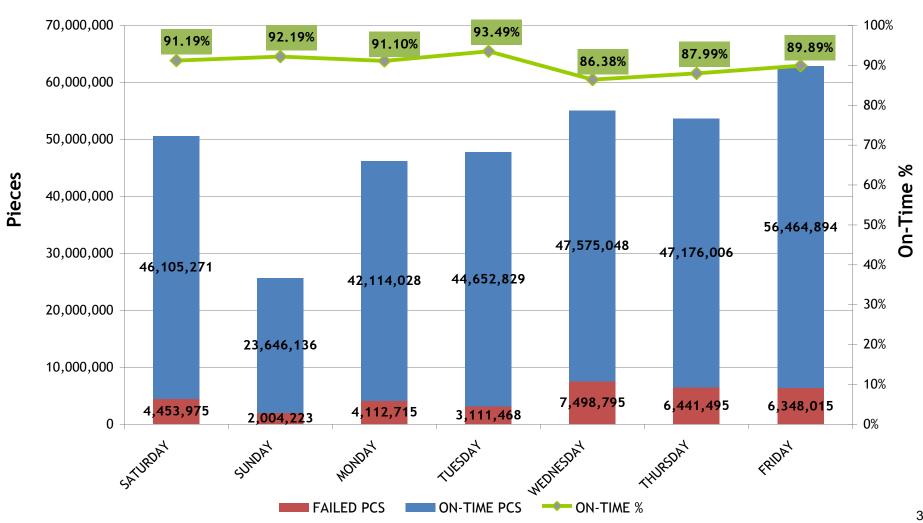
## NATIONAL STC BY DAY OF THE WEEK ANALYSIS QTR 1 2013





#### **Standard Letters - NDC**

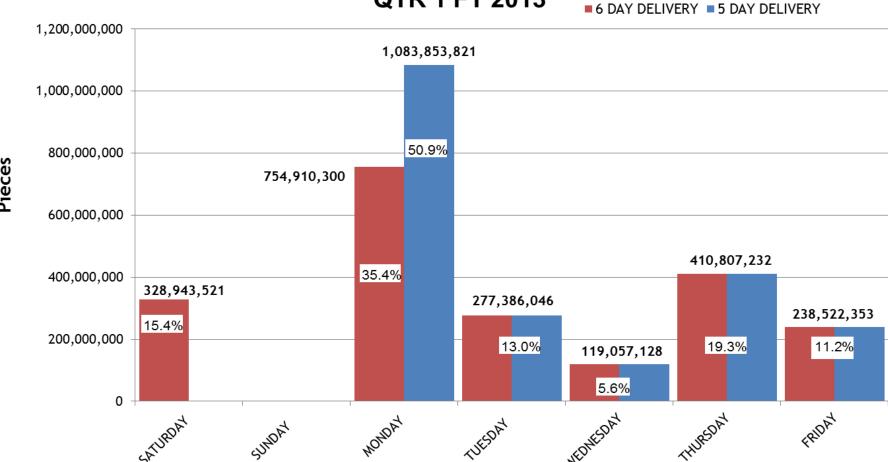
#### NATIONAL STC BY DAY OF THE WEEK ANALYSIS QTR 1 2013





## **Destination Entry STD Letters Delivery Day Volumes Analysis**

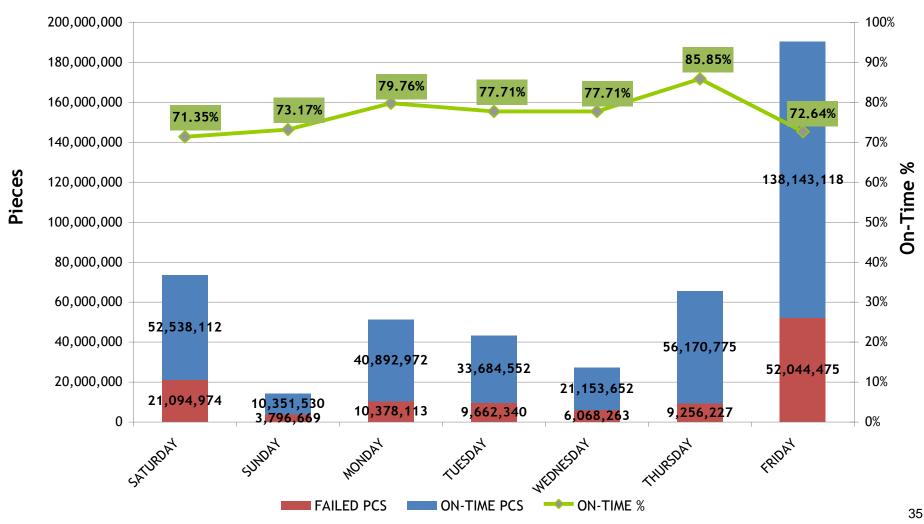






## **Standard Flats - SCF**

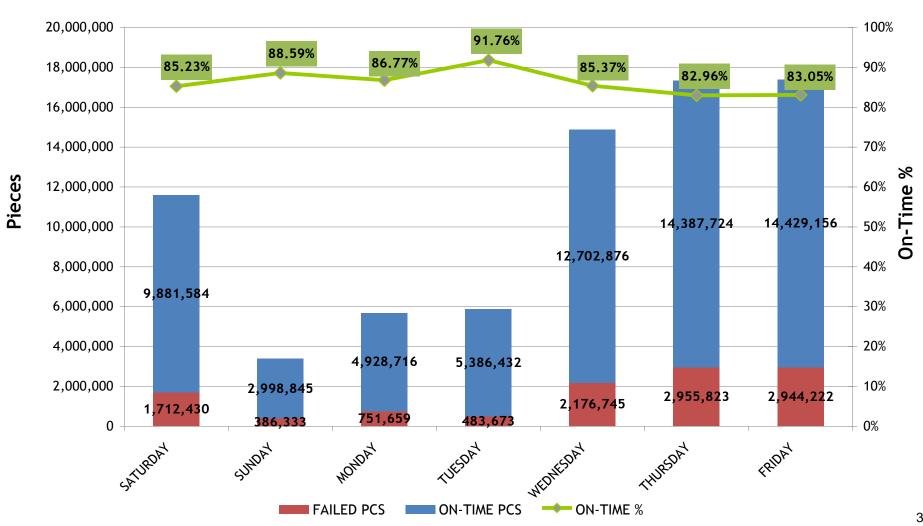
#### NATIONAL STC BY DAY OF THE WEEK ANALYSIS QTR 1 2013





## **Standard Flats - NDC**

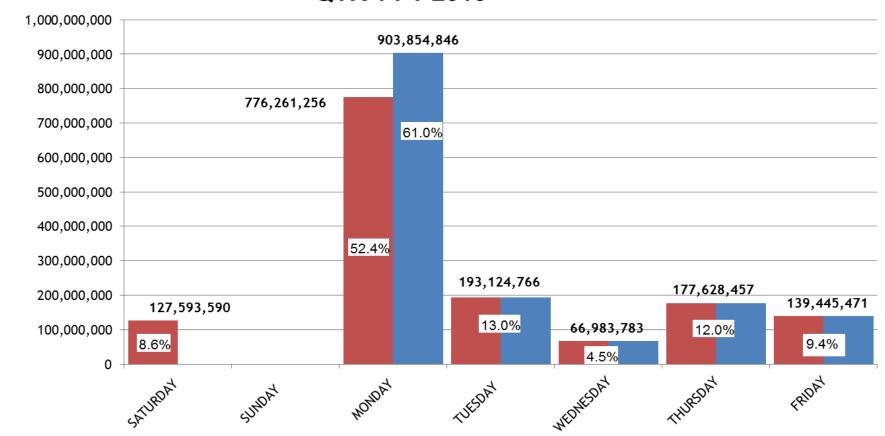
#### NATIONAL STC BY DAY OF THE WEEK ANALYSIS QTR 1 2013





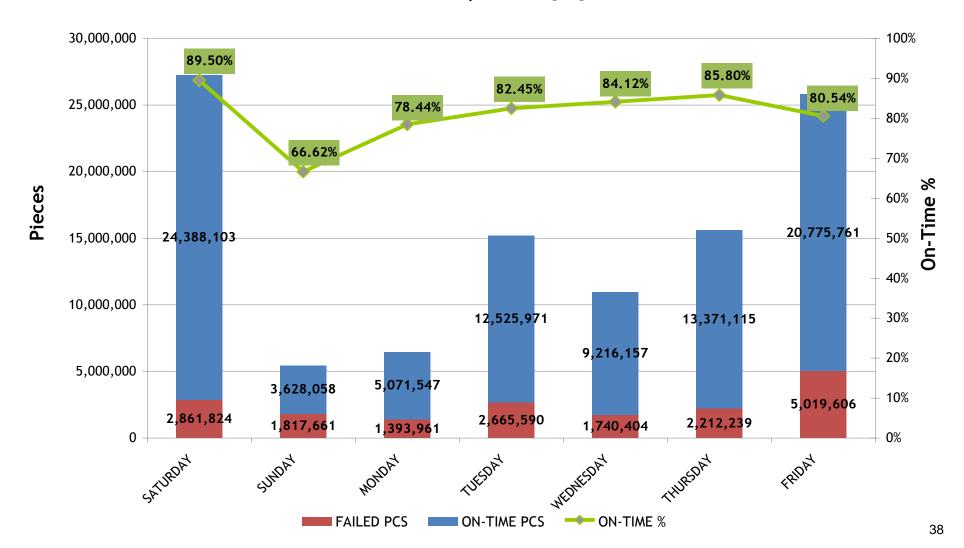
# Destination Entry STD Flats Delivery Day Volumes Analysis

# Standard Flats Delivery Day Volumes QTR 1 FY 2013 •6 DAY DELIVERY •5 DAY DELIVERY



### **Periodicals Flats - SCF**

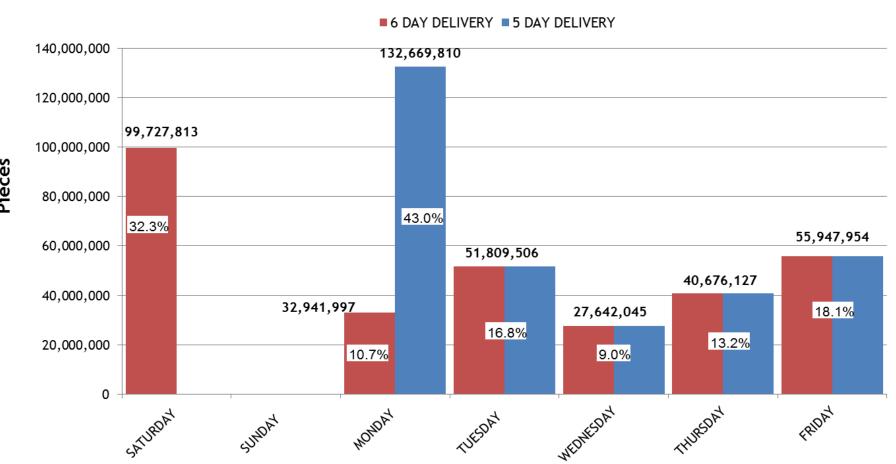
# NATIONAL STC BY DAY OF THE WEEK ANALYSIS QTR 1 2013





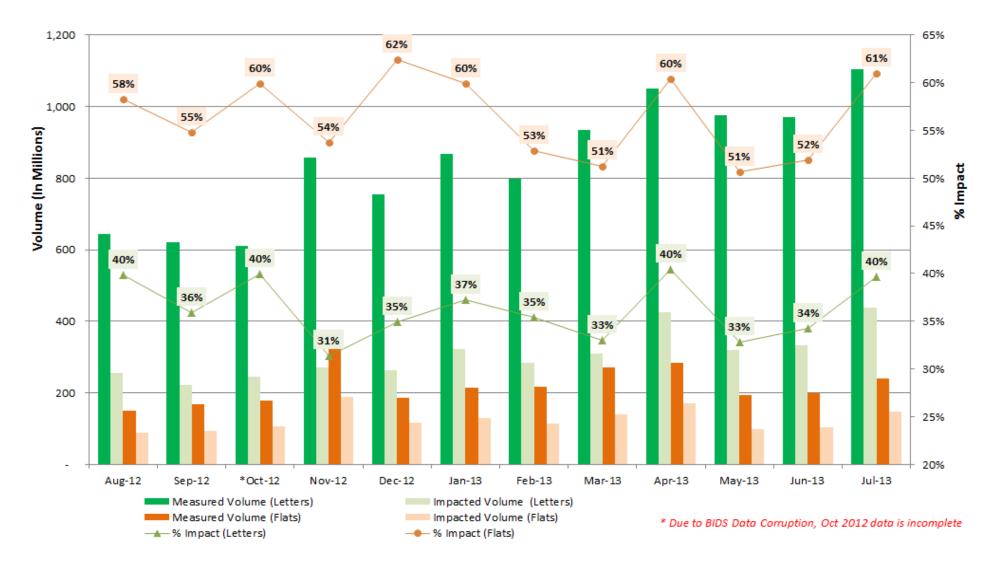
# SCF Destination Entry Periodicals Delivery Day Volumes Analysis

#### SCF Periodicals Flats QTR 1 FY 2013

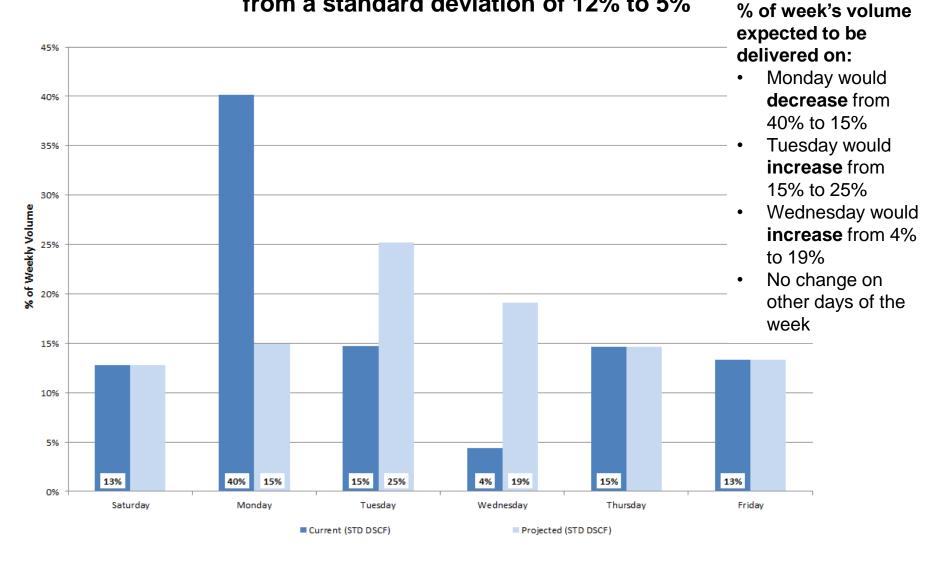


# Based on historical data, ~40% of Standard DSCF Mail is projected to be impacted if Sunday was a non-processing day.

Letters impacted ~36%; Flats impacted ~56%



If Sunday was a non-processing day, the variation in Standard DSCF mail volume by expected day of delivery is projected to decrease from a standard deviation of 12% to 5%



Standard deviation for daily Standard DSCF Letters mail volume is projected to decrease from 10% to 3%; For Flats, it is projected to decrease from 20% to 12%

#### **Standard DSCF Letters**

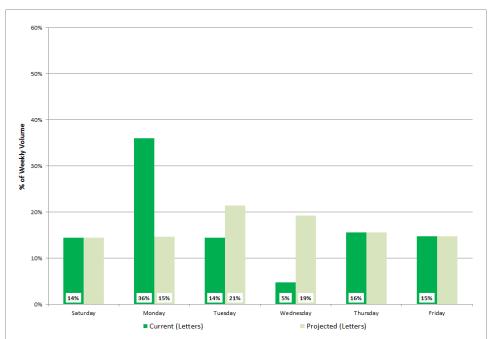
#### % of week's volume expected to be delivered on:

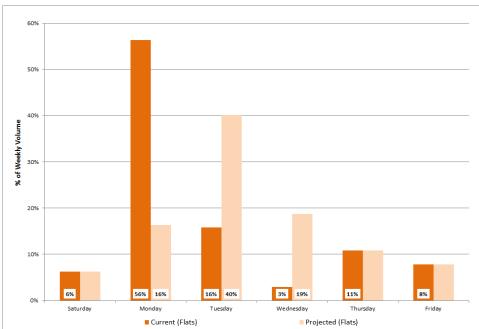
- Monday would decrease from 36% to 15%
- Tuesday would increase from 14% to 21%
- Wednesday would **increase** from 5% to 19%

#### **Standard DSCF Flats**

#### % of week's volume expected to be delivered on:

- Monday would **decrease** from 56% to 16%
- Tuesday would increase from 16% to 40%
- Wednesday would increase from 3% to 19%







#### **SCF Standard Drops - Current**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Color code for	Color code for	Color code for Friday	Collor code for	All Day is color	Color code for	Color code for
Wednesday until 1600	Thursday until 1600	until 1600	Saturday until 1600	coded for Monday	Monday until 1600	Tuesday until 1600
1600 - Thurs Violet	1600 - Fri Yellow	1600- Sat Pink	1600 - Monday		1600 - Tues Orange	1600 - Wed Green

### **SCF Standard Drops - Future**

#### **South Jersey Test**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Color code for	Color code for	Color code for Friday	Color code for	Color code for	Color code for	All day is color
Wednesday until 1600	Thursday until 1600	until 1600	Saturday until 1600	Monday until 1600		coded for Wednesday
1600 - Thurs Purple	1600 - Fri Yellow	1600- Sat Pink	1600 - Monday Blue	1600 - Tues Orange	1600 - Wed Green	

Taking out Sunday as a transit day will smooth the mail volumes across days of the week

- Two weekends in September 9/14 and 9/21
- South Jersey will be the test site
- Standard mail only Letters and Flats
- Change color code according to new layout
- Analyze the results
  - Impact to the industry
  - Hours saved
  - Volume to carriers across Monday and Tuesday
  - Impact in five day environment



- HUB Workgroup kick off
  - June 24, 2013
- Weekly meetings to discuss
  - Use of HUBS for each mail class and shape
  - System changes
- Implementation
  - January 2014



## **User Group 7 - MTEOR**

### **MTEOR**

The purpose of the user group is to identify and recommend opportunities for future enhancements to the MTEOR program.

Co-Leaders: Industry - Steve Colella USPS - Nancy Paradice

Kick-off: July 23, 2013 Meeting: Every three weeks

#### **MTEOR Enhancements - Areas of Focus**

- Ease of Use
- Communication
- Mailer order history reporting
- Report generation capabilities



# **MTEOR Update**



### MTEOR continues to be successfully used by Mailers and Postal Plants:

#### **MTEOR - MTESC Mailer**

- Orders (since September 5, 2013)
  - 443 MTESC Mailers are currently registered for MTEOR
  - 29,092 orders were placed through MTEOR
  - Over \$285 million worth of MTE ordered
- Inventory (since April 15, 2013)
  - 405 Mailers reported their inventory at least once (91% of total)
  - **54 Mailers have reported** every week (12% of total)
  - 38 Mailers have never reported (9% of total)

#### **MTEOR - Plant**

- Orders (since April 15, 2013)
  - 332 Postal plants are currently using MTEOR
  - 11,497 orders were placed through MTEOR
  - Over \$105 million worth of MTE was ordered through MTEOR



#### What is it?

Phase 2.a provides the ability to order MTE from Postal plants

### • Who does it impact?

- Local Mailers Mailers who only pick up MTE from Postal Plants will use MTEOR to request MTE
- MTESC Mailers Mailers who currently receive MTE directly from the MTESC will use MTEOR to either order directly from the MTESC or pick up from a Postal plant
  - MTESC Mailers should order MTE from the MTESC first.
  - MTESC Mailers should only request MTE from a Postal plant if they are willing to pick up the MTE themselves and the MTESC cannot fulfill their demand



#### ☐ The launch timeline is:

 Pilot launch at three pilot plants and approximately 125 Local Mailers on October 7, 2013



- Full launch beginning February 2014 in a phased roll-out by Area
- We are working with Mailers and Postal plants to enhance the existing applications and prepare for the upcoming pilot
  - MTAC Workgroup
  - MTEOR Plant Collaboration Group (MPCG)



# POSTAL SERVICE® Training and Communication Schedule

	August 2013		September 2013					October 2013				
	Wk. of 8/12	Wk. of 8/19	Wk. of 8/26	Wk. of 9/02	Wk. of 9/09	Wk. of 9/16	Wk. of 9/23	Wk. of 9/30	Wk. of 10/07	Wk. of 10/14	Wk. of 10/21	Wk. of 10/28
Bulletins												
August Bulletin		•										
September Bulletin						<b>♦</b>						
October Bulletin										•		
Training Webinars												
Local Mailers								•	$\Diamond$			
MTESC Mailers								<b>♦</b>	$\Diamond$			
MTAC Meetings												
Full Group			•									
User Group #7				•			•			•		
RIBBS Website												
Launch of Local Mailer Page					•							
FAQs Posted					•							
Other Communications to Pilot Mailers												
Launch E-Mails					•	•	•	•	$\Diamond$			
Feedback Survey									a u u a a la			•

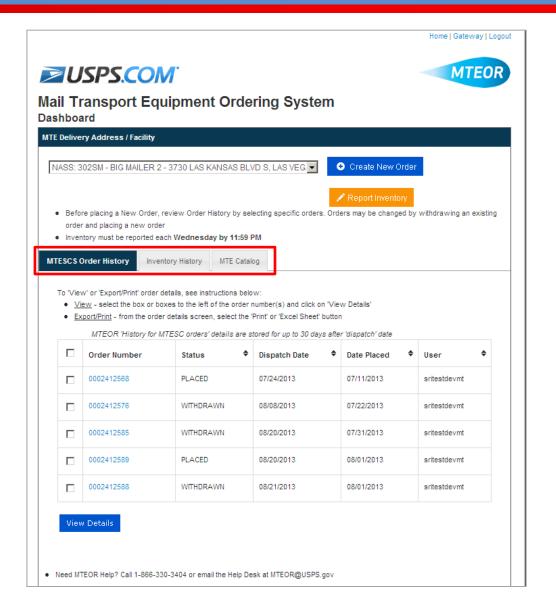
Launch



# UNITED STATES Upcoming MTEOR Enhancements

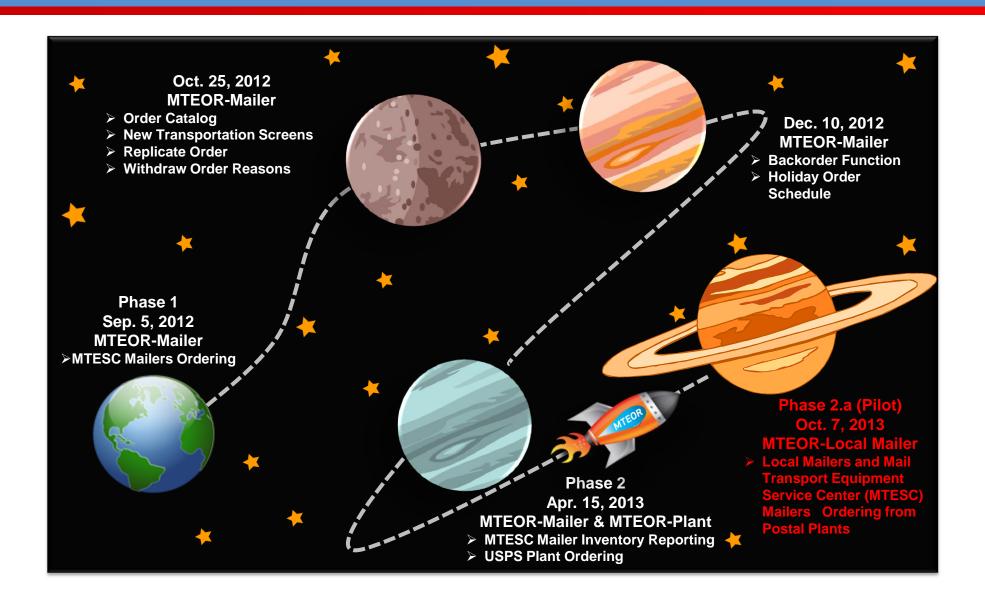
### New MTEOR Dashboard launches October 7, 2013

Users will now be able to view key information such as MTESC Order History, Inventory History, and the MTE Catalog on separate tabs on the dashboard rather than viewing them all on one page





### MTEOR's Path





# Mail Prep & Entry Steering Committee Update



# Mail Prep and Entry Ideas Log

- 116 ideas submitted to date
  - 35 closed
    - Out of scope, withdrawn or re-assigned
  - 11 completed
    - Postal Bulletin articles and DMM revisions announced
  - 29 remaining in Benefit/Effort matrix
    - 9 new items that need evaluation
  - 41 open need Change/Improvement template submitted or idea withdrawn



### 20-24 oz Periodical Engineering Test

- Evaluate increasing max PER weight to 24oz for co-mail pools
- Determination of more specific impacts to each machine will require testing
- We now have a commitment from two mailers to provide test mail
- Plan on testing FSS & AFSM100 in October at Linthicum and Engineering/Merrifield

### **Subgroup Update – FSS Prep Requirement**

# Re-opened FSS subgroup

- Still active discussion on current and proposed requirements
- FSS entry points (FSS Site & Feeder Locations)
- Pallet and Bundle size
- Explore additional members for group



- Commingled BPM Auto Flats with Standard Mail Flats
  - Due to software coding effort required it can not be included in January 2014 release
  - Possible release in July 2014



## **DMM Pallet Stack Regulations**

### 705.8.3 Stacking Pallets

### 8.3.1 Physical Characteristics

Pallets may be stacked two, three, or four tiers high if:

- a. The combined gross weight of the stacked pallets (pallets, top caps, and mail) does not exceed 2,200 pounds.
- b. The heaviest pallet is on the bottom and the lightest is on the top.
- c. Individual pallets are secured with straps or stretchable or shrinkable plastic as specified in <u>8.1.3</u>.
- d. The stack of pallets is secured with <u>at least two straps or bands</u> of appropriate material to maintain the integrity of the stacked pallets during transport and handling. Wire or metal bands, straps, buckles, seals, and similar metal fastening devices cannot be used. The stack of pallets cannot be secured together with stretchable or shrinkable plastic.
- e. Each pallet is top-capped as specified in 8.2.
- f. The combined height of the stacked pallets and their loads does not exceed 84 inches. Exception: Pallets prepared for entry at Anchorage or Fairbanks, Alaska, cannot exceed 72 inches (pallets, top caps, and mail).



## **DMM Pallet Stack Regulations**

### Top Caps 8.2.1 Use

Top caps are used as follows:

- a. Except as provided below, all pallets of sacks, trays, parcels, bundles of mail, or pallet boxes must be top-capped if the pallets are stacked two, three, or four tiers high when presented to the USPS for acceptance.
- b. The top pallet need not be top-capped if the strapping or banding securing the stacked pallets together neither damages the mail on the top pallet nor allows the stack to shift.
- c. Lower pallet(s) containing either parcels or bundles of mail need not be top-capped if the top surface of each pallet load provides a sturdy, flat surface, parallel to the pallet base, that allows safe and efficient stacking of pallets placed on top and prevents sliding of the top pallet(s), damage to the loaded mail, or crushing of the load.



#### Max height of stacked pallets 84" (DMM 705 8.3.1 f)

One foot of mail estimated at 488 lbs Pallet weight is 16 lbs

Current max is 4 pallets high & 2,200 lbs

Mail 12" Plastic Pallet 6" Mail 12" Plastic Pallet 6" Mail 12" Plastic Pallet 6" Mail 12" Plastic Pallet 6"

With 12" mail (450-488 lbs per pallet) Max 4 pallets @ 72" high (12" and 200 lbs remain) Estimated total ~ 2,000 lbs

Mail 6" Plastic Pallet 6" Mail 6" Plastic Pallet 6" Mail 12" Plastic Pallet 6" Mail 12" Plastic Pallet 6" Mail 12" Plastic Pallet 6"

With mixed pallets (244-488 lbs per pallet) Max 5 pallets @ 78" high (6" remain) Estimated total ~ 2,030 lbs

Mail 6" Plastic Pallet 6" Mail 12" Plastic Pallet 6" Mail 12" Plastic Pallet 6"

With mixed pallets (244-488 lbs per pallet) Max 6 pallets @ 84" high (0" remain) Estimated total ~ 2,050 lbs 62







### Mailer Example

5 pallets high Combination flats / trays

### 80 inches

This is a mix and pallet height make up that is diminishing due to more low volume pallets for SCF





# Mailer Example: 6 pallets high all Trays Under 80 inches total

With shape-based mail direction separations mailer unable to add these smaller tray pallets to existing groups of flats pallets for destination delivery due to separate stops for one SCF based on mail shape.



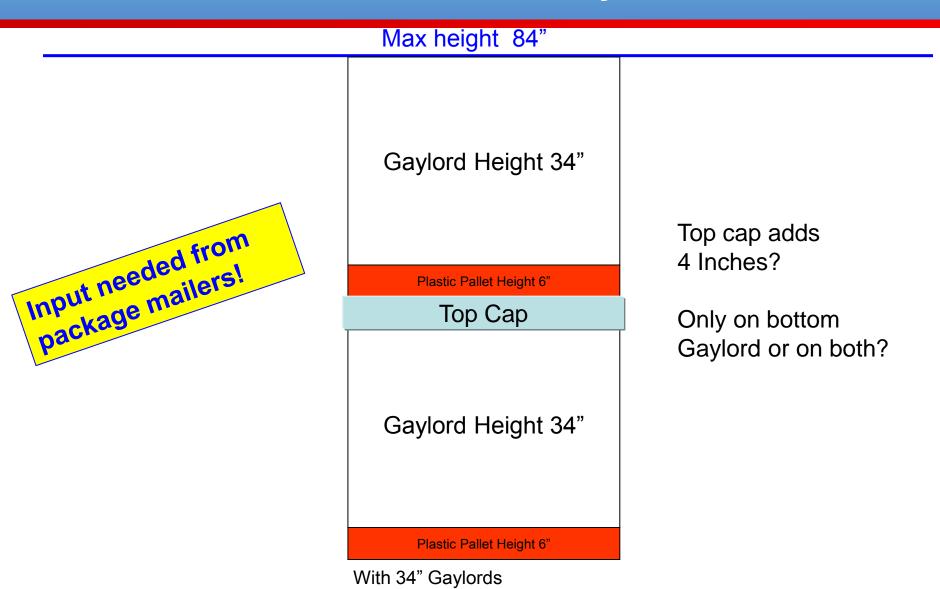


Mailer example: 5 pallets high, 75 inches; 4 high 75 inches





## **Gaylord Stack Limit**



Two fit within 84" high allowing

4" for top cap.



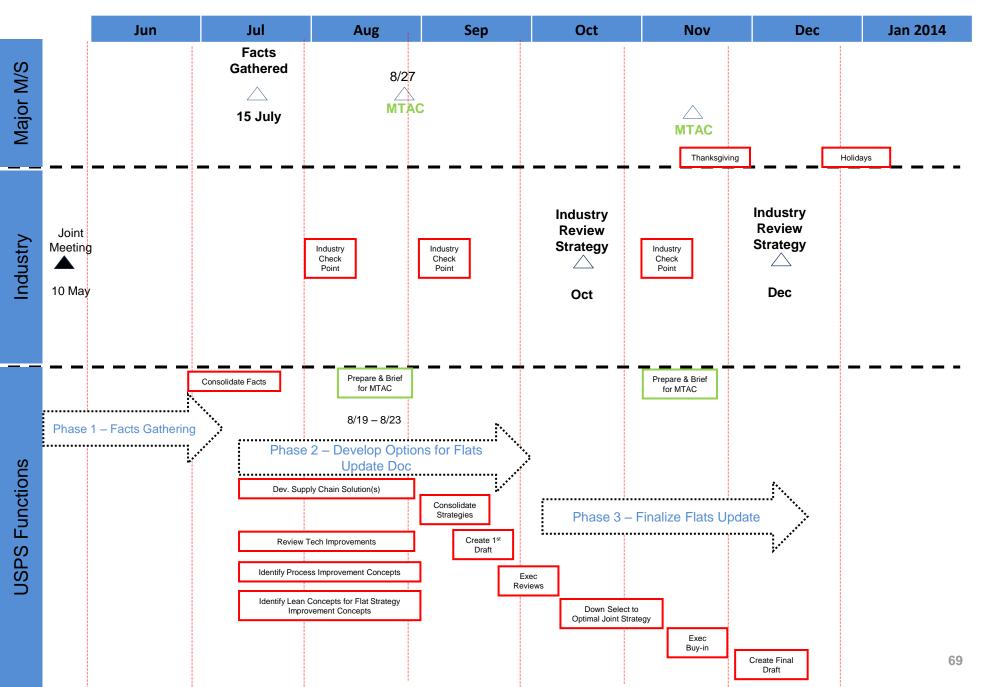
# **Flats Strategy Update**



### **Group structure and process:**

- Formal internal cross-functional group
- Project charter
- Project plan
- Weekly internal group meetings
- Firm timelines
- Weekly updates to USPS leadership
- Face-to-face meetings and webinar discussions with industry

#### **Flats Document High Level Timeline**







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- 5 Flats Operations End-to-End Strategy
- 5.1 Streamline and Simplify Mail Make-Up
- 5.2 Reduce Number of Entry Points
- 5.3 Induct the Mail Where First Handling Occurs
- 5.4 Bypass Sack / Bundle Distribution
- 5.5 Move Mail up the Ladder to Automation
- 5.6 Automate Sequencing of Flats for Delivery
- 5.7 Leverage the Use of Data (Visibility)
- 6 Summary
- 7 Appendix



## **Network Rationalization Open Discussion**



### **Progress to Date of Consolidations**

Area	Full			Orig	inating O	nly	Dest	Total		
	Complete	Partial	Not Started	Complete	Partial	Not Started	Complete	Partial	Not Started	
CM	3	0	0	5	0	0	6	0	0	14
EA	8	2	0	2	0	0	20	2	0	34
GL	4	0	0	4	0	0	6	0	0	14
NE	1	1	2	0	1	2	6	0	1	14
PA	0	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	5
SA	8	1	0	4	0	0	13	0	1	27
WE	23	1	1	9	0	2	3	0	0	39
Total	47	6	3	25	1	4	57	2	2	147

129 (87.8%) of 2013 Consolidations Completed



# Progress to Date of FY13 Mail Moves Calendar

Area	Completed to date	August	September	October	December	TBD	Total
Capital Metro	34	0	0	0		0	34
Eastern	134	0	10	2		0	146
Great Lakes	72	0	0	0		0	72
Northeast	29	2	15	0		1	47
Pacific	16	0	0	0	1	0	17
Southern	145	0	4	0		0	149
Western	190	0	13	0		0	203
National Total	620	2	42	2	1	1	668

92.8% of Mail Moves Completed



# Mail Direction File & Labeling Lists Open Discussion



# **Open Discussion**



# MTAC Mail Prep & Entry Focus Group Standard Track

August 28, 2013

#### Standard Track

- Action Items from Last Meeting
- Engineering Technology Update
- Workgroup Updates
- MTEOR Update
- Mail Prep & Entry Steering Committee Update
- Update on Flats Strategy
- Network Rationalization Open Discussion
- Mail Direction File & Labeling List Discussion
- Open Discussion



- Action Items from Last Meeting
  - Process for notating FSS Site on 8125 and associated messaging of policy to sites
  - Issue policy on FAST holiday constraints
  - FSS damage rates
  - Industry provide test mail for FSS
  - Document FSS issues in eMIR
  - Engineering meeting with Paper/Print Industry
  - Update on APPS Singulation
    - Industry provide test bundles
  - Evaluate adding old address to Mail Move File
  - Palletization requirements on 8125 (Courtesy Pallet)

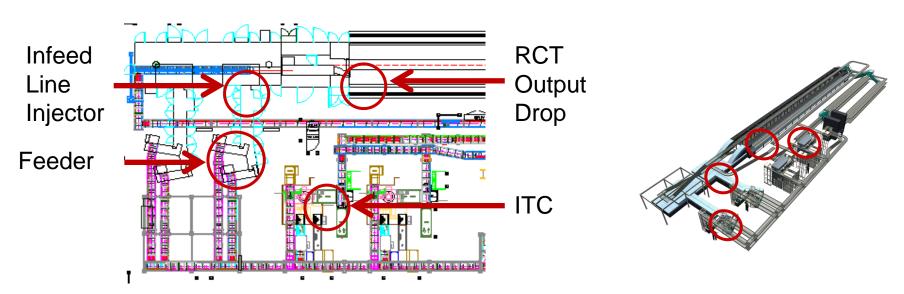


# **Engineering Technology Update**



#### Committed to improving FSS handling of flat mail

- Mail characteristics trend towards lighter and thinner mailings
- Extensive studies on mail damage resulted in 4 areas of focus
  - Feeders (4 per system)
  - Infeed Line Injectors (2 per system)
  - RCT Output Drops (360 per system)
  - ITCs (2 per system)
- Next slides show mail handling improvements





# **FSS Mail Handling Improvements**

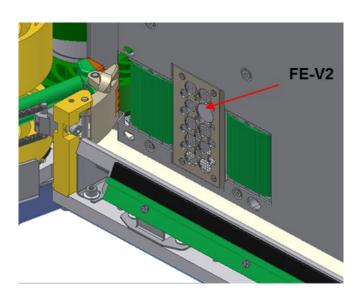
- Feeder Testing complete Final/Best Configuration (Test G & L)
  - Improvements: No Constant Vacuum, new vacuum plate, improved AI Software,
     V2 Sensor moved ~ 1 in and adjust to 6 mm sensing range for better stack
     management
  - Average Damage 2 reduction >33% (baseline of 0.48%)
  - Average Damage 3 reduction >66% (baseline of 0.036%)
  - Test L = Test G. Test G was done on IL2 and Test L was done in IL1

			- I					B. 1161 1			0/ 01	
Test		Baseline			Modified				% Change			
	Pieces	D2	D3	D2 %	D3 %	Pieces	D2	D3	D2 %	D3 %	D2 %	D3 %
G (Same as Config E with E3&E4 V2 is												
adjusted 6mm from pick plate)	12279	30	2	0.24%	0.02%	11763	25	1	0.21%	0.01%	-13.02%	-47.81%
H (Same as G - V2 is adjusted 9mm												
from pick plate)	4728	12	3	0.25%	0.06%	3960	30	0	0.76%	0.00%	198.43%	-100.00%
I (Same as G - except V2 is adjusted												
11mm from pick plate	4758	5	0	0.11%	0.00%	4698	2	0	0.04%	0.00%	-59.49%	0.00%
J (Same as I with stack correction												
camera active)	2042	8	0	0.39%	0.00%	1901	5	0	0.26%	0.00%	-32.89%	0.00%
K (Same as J with V2 back to 6mm)	7274	8	0	0.11%	0.00%	7362	7	1	0.10%	0.01%	-13.56%	0.00%
L (mod moved to IL1)	10101	78	6	0.77%	0.06%	10973	33	1	0.30%	0.01%	-61.06%	-84.66%
M (RJ Camera IL1)	1541	10	1	0.65%	0.06%	1291	2	0	0.15%	0.00%	-76.14%	-100.00%

# **FSS Mail Handling Improvements**

#### Feeder Improvement Background

- Constant Vacuum
  - Removing constant vacuum (require new plate) enables feeder to stand mail up at destacker plate which minimizes damage
- Al Software
  - Faster AI reaction time
  - Al Paddle synches up mail more effectively
  - Allows Auto Paddle to move closer to destacker plate
- V2 Sensor
  - Adjust positioning and sensing range of the V2 sensor for better stack management





# **FSS Mail Handling Improvements**

#### Continued to implement design improvements

- Deployed 12 hardware Modification Kits
- 20 more hardware Mod Kits planned

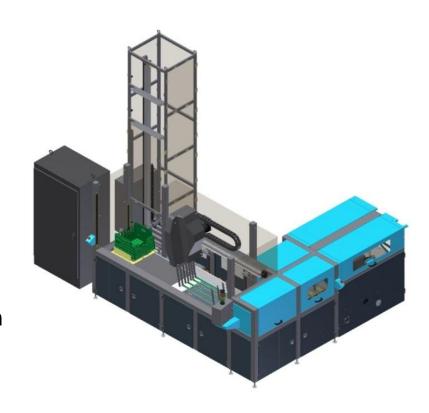
#### FSS SW v3.1 - deploy Fall 2013 (Sept/Oct)

- SW changes at feeder to better control stack quality and have gentler pick off of Low "Run Stiffness" Mail
- SW changes at Infeed Line for better injection into Carousel of Low "Run Stiffness" Mail to minimize flipped mail
- New Separation Belts planned for Fall 2013 (Oct/Nov)
- Mail Stack Quality at Feeders planned for Fall 2013 (Oct/Nov)
  - Adding 3 HW modifications at feeder to better control stack quality and have gentler pick off of Low "Run Stiffness" Mail
- Infeed Line Injector planned for Fall 2013 (Oct/Nov)
  - Adding 2 HW mods at Infeed Line for better injection into Carousel of Low "Run Stiffness" Mail to minimize flipped mail



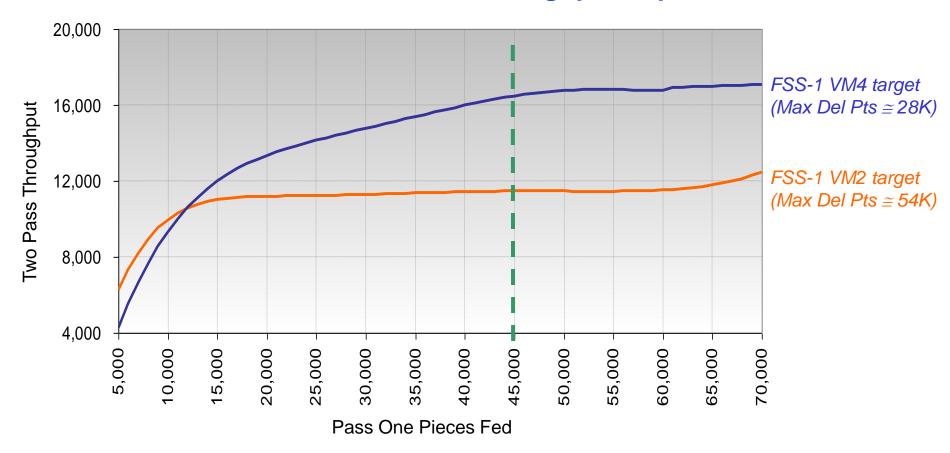
## **Key Features**

- Increase Flats Sequencing System (FSS) efficiency in the virtual machine 2 (VM2) mode
- Achieve a throughput of 6 pieces per second (double that of the current FSS feeder), reducing the number of FSS feeders from four to two
  - Allows VM2 mode, with increased delivery points per sort plan, to maintain the same throughput as the VM4 mode
- Reduce the number of double feeds, decrease mail damage, and minimize manual intervention while feeding mail



#### **Operational Benefits to FSS**

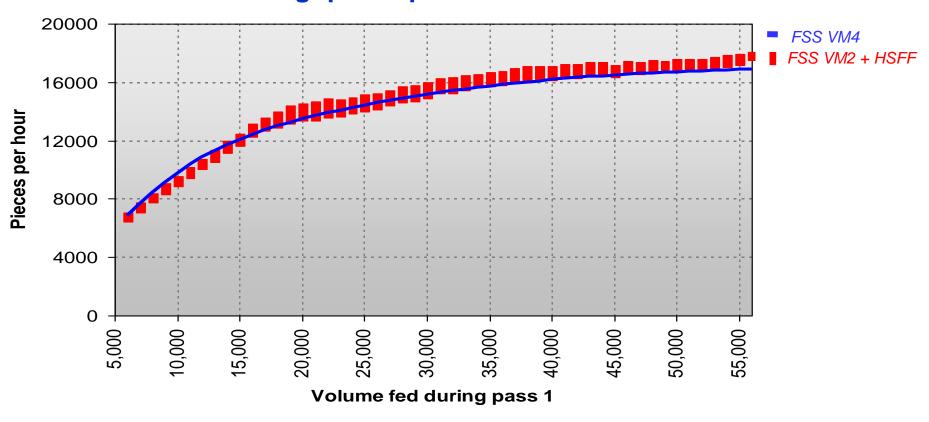
#### **FSS Phase 1 With Four Feeders: Throughput Expectations**





#### **Operational Benefits to FSS**

#### **FSS + HSFF: Throughput Expectations**



With 95% confidence, FSS machines equipped with HSFFs and running in VM2 mode will perform at the same 2-pass throughput rate as VM4



#### **R&D Evaluation Plan**

<ul><li>Install HSFF (Co</li></ul>	mpleted)	Jun 14
------------------------------------	----------	--------

- "Live" mail evaluation (started)Jun 15
- Check Point 1Sep 16
- Continue "Live" mail evaluation
  - Through Fall mailing season
- Check Point 2Dec 9
- End "Live" mail Evaluation
   Jan 2014

#### **Dulles FSS Machine Comparison All Runs**

Average Throughput – All Runs (August 1, 2013 – August 21, 2013)



#### **Dulles FSS Machine Comparison All Runs**

Machine Operational Time August 1, 2013 – August 21, 2013





#### **Future Benefits | Production**

- Increased Mail Volume Processed Per day
  - FSS machines with HSFF | no additional changes
    - Process current mail with less sort plans, in less hours
  - FSS machines with HSFF | with changes
    - Re-pack / Add sort plans
      - Service more Zip Codes | Delivery Points
- Decreased mail damage
- Reduced double feeds | Improved Accept Rate



#### **Forward Plan**

#### Pre-Production system evaluation

<ul> <li>Complete Tec</li> </ul>	nnical Data Package	Sep 2013
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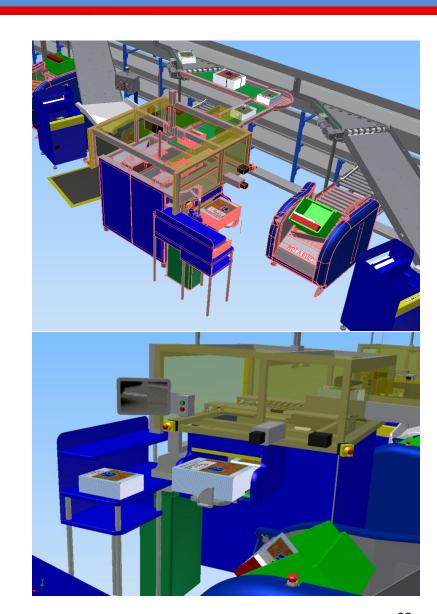
- Complete field validation
   Jan 2014
  - Dulles P&DC
- RFP Spring 2014
- Contract Award
   Summer 2014
- Deployment Spring 2015



# **Flats Bundle Preparation**

#### Flats Preparation Operations

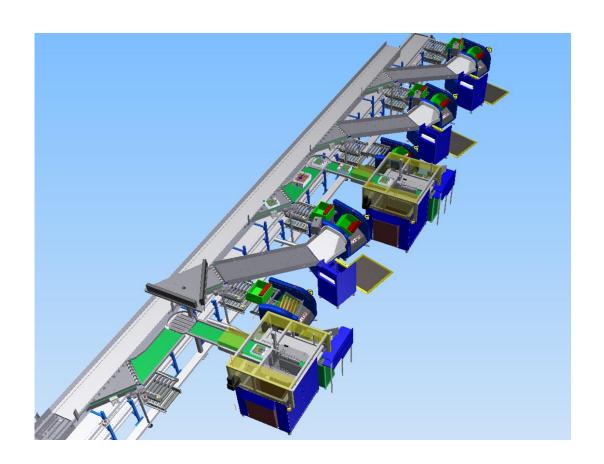
- Evaluating feasibility of flats prep technology to reduce cost and increase productivity
  - Operator Assist technology cutting of straps and removal of poly material from flat bundles
  - Automate loading of flat mail into ACT trays





# **Flats Bundle Preparation**

#### Flats Preparation Operations – SAMP Interface





## **APPS Singulation Enhancement**

#### Current status

- Design & drawings completed
- Parts ordered & received
- Mockup of the APPS Singulator built
- Fabrication completed May
- Assembled onto mockup & adjusted preliminary design June
- Assembled onto Production APPS machine in Washington NDC July
- Tested at Washington NDC July
- Ordering parts and starting fabrication of pre-production unit August

#### Next steps

- Adjust Final Design August
- Generate install manual and Finalize August
- Complete build of pre-production Unit early September
- Start building production quantities September
- Start shipping/installing Fall mailing season



# **Workgroup Updates**



# Workgroup Updates

 WG 156 – Utilizing the Mail Optimization Matrix (MOP)

WG 157 – Load Leveling

■ WG 159 - HUBs

■ UG 7 – MTEOR



# Utilizing the MOP to identify and organize improvement opportunities

- Current Status
  - Workgroup meetings complete
  - MOP and supporting documents developed
  - Created prioritized list of opportunities
- Final Step
  - Compete templates for submission of top opportunities to Mail Prep and Entry Steering Committee



# MTAC Load Leveling Workgroup 157



#### MTAC Workgroup 157 consists of:

- First Class, Standard and Periodical Mailers
- Mail Providers, Mail Owners
- Software venders

#### Charter

- Review the current processes and procedures for the load leveling of volumes across days of the week.
- Strategize on future initiatives that would meet the objective of load leveling volumes across days of week.
- Analyze future possible initiatives in a cost/benefit format to provide viable recommendations to the Postal Service.



#### **Desired Results from WG 157**

- Develop strategies that will facilitate the load leveling of volume across days of the week.
- Model the impact of each strategy on the mail owners, software venders, logistics and transportation providers, USPS operations and mail entry.
- Evaluate strategies for potential adoption and implementation.
- Recommend and/or establish guidelines for the consistent and predictable collection and dissemination of information, including updates for stakeholders.
- Gain a clearer understanding of stakeholders' expectations
- Identify/define potential technical or process changes that are needed by the mailing industry to accommodate the potential impact of load leveling.



# **Today's Environment**

#### **SCF Standard Drops - Current**

						/8
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Color code for	Color code for	Color code for Friday	Collor code for	All Day is color	Color code for	Color code for
Wednesday until	Thursday until 1600	until 1600	Saturday until 1600	coded for Monday	Monday until 1600	Tuesday until 1600
1600						
1600 - Thurs Violet	1600 - Fri Yellow	1600- Sat Pink	1600 - Monday		1600 - Tues Orange	1600 - Wed Green

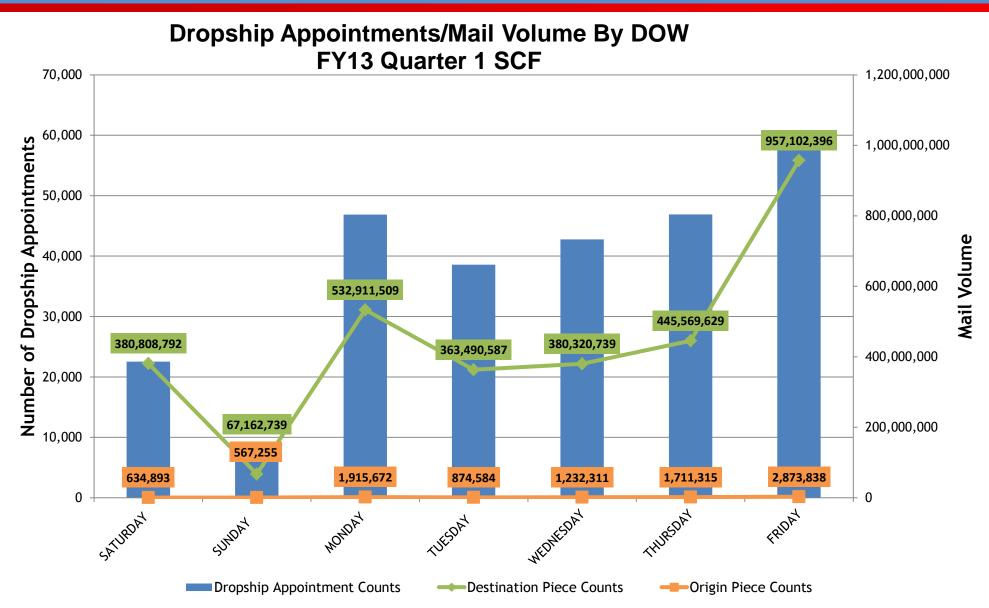
#### **NDC Standard Drops - Current**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Color code for Friday	Color code for	All Day we color	Color code for	Color code for	Color code for	Color code for
until 1600	Saturday until 1600	code for Monday	Monday until 1600	Tuesday until 1600	Wednesday until	Thursday until 1600
					1600	
1600 - Sat Pink	1600 - Monday Blue		1600 - Tues Orange	1600 - Wed green	1600 - Thurs Violet	1600 - Fri Yellow

Most of the mail whether dropped at the SCF or NDC is earmarked for delivery on Monday



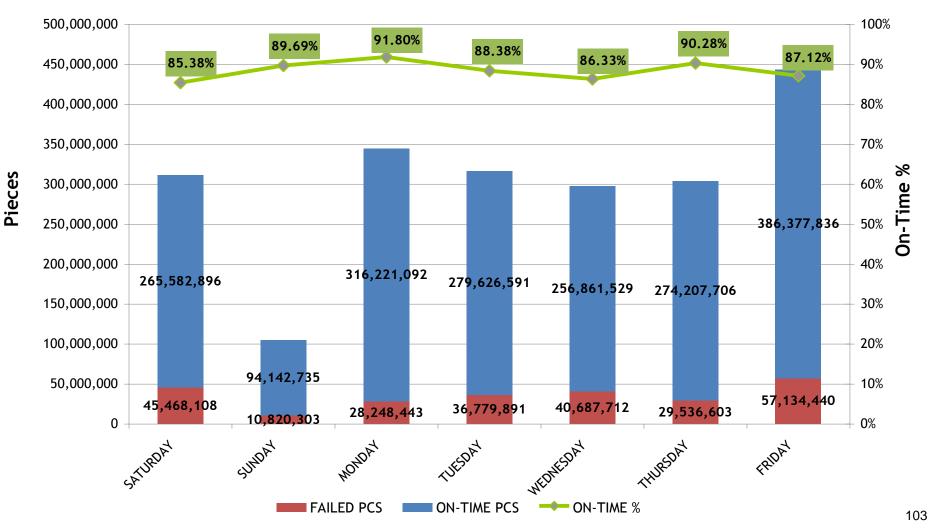
#### DROP SHIP APPOINTMENTS AT SCF PQ 1





#### Service - Standard Letters - SCF

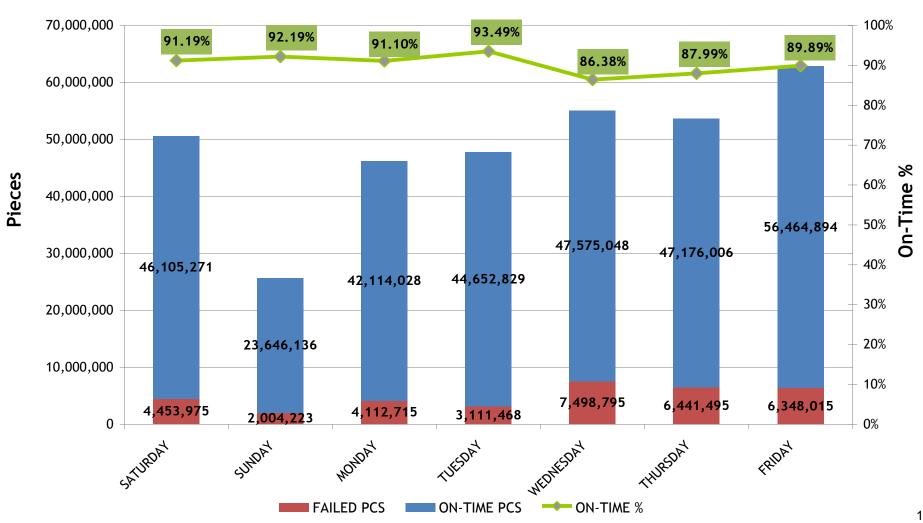
#### NATIONAL STC BY DAY OF THE WEEK ANALYSIS QTR 1 2013





#### **Standard Letters - NDC**

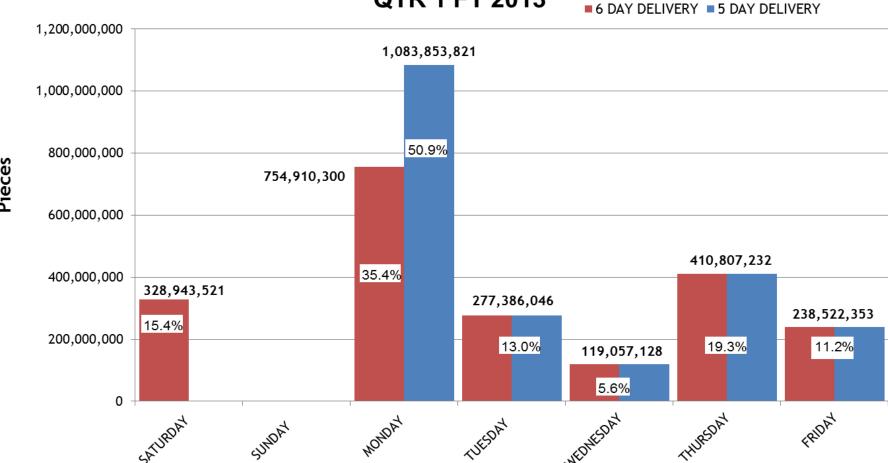
# NATIONAL STC BY DAY OF THE WEEK ANALYSIS QTR 1 2013





# **Destination Entry STD Letters Delivery Day Volumes Analysis**

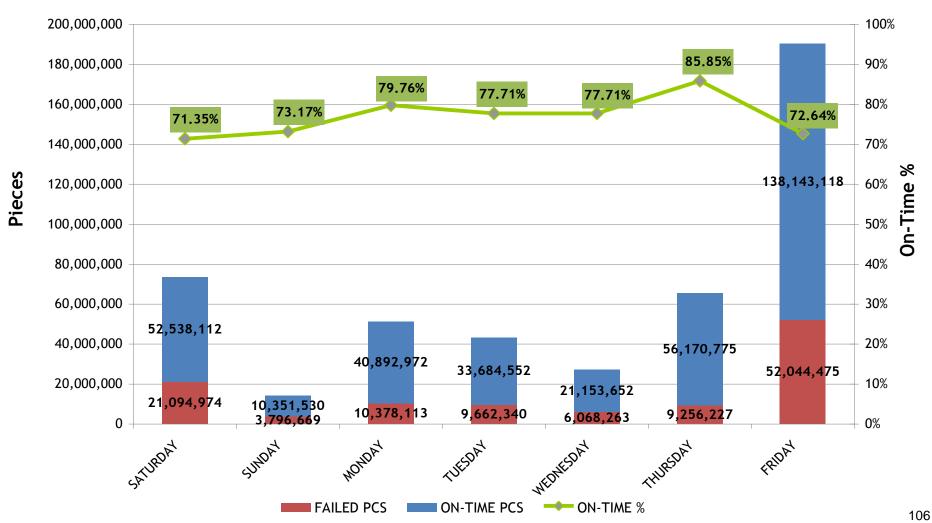






#### **Standard Flats - SCF**

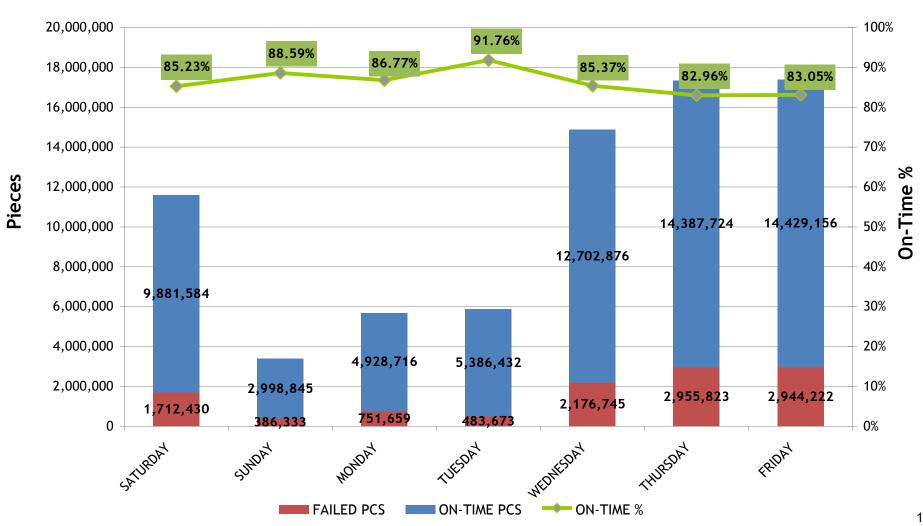
#### NATIONAL STC BY DAY OF THE WEEK ANALYSIS QTR 1 2013





## **Standard Flats - NDC**

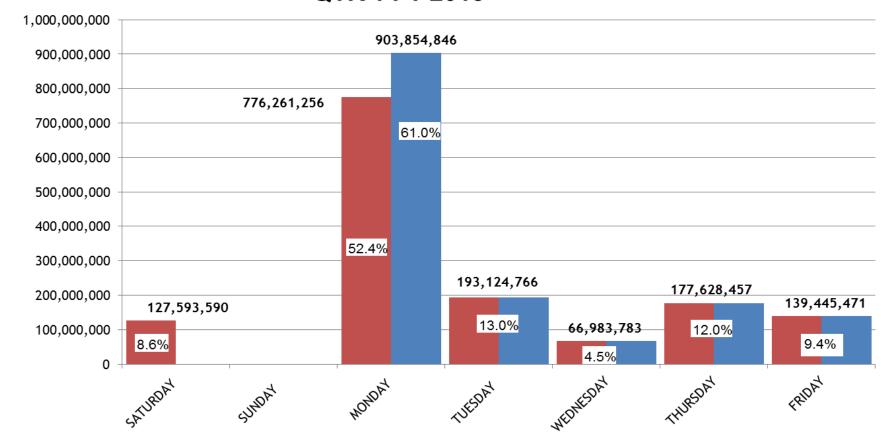
# NATIONAL STC BY DAY OF THE WEEK ANALYSIS QTR 1 2013





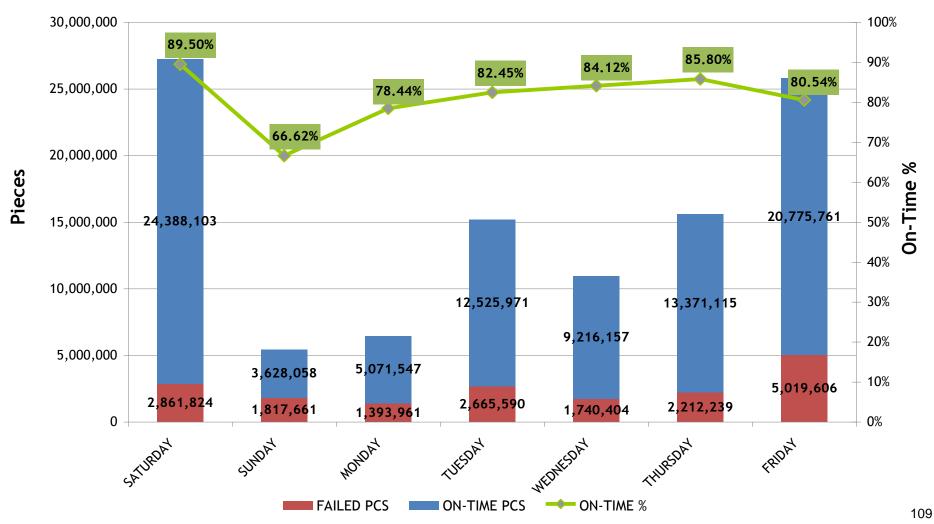
# Destination Entry STD Flats Delivery Day Volumes Analysis

# Standard Flats Delivery Day Volumes QTR 1 FY 2013 • 6 DAY DELIVERY • 5 DAY DELIVERY



## **Periodicals Flats - SCF**

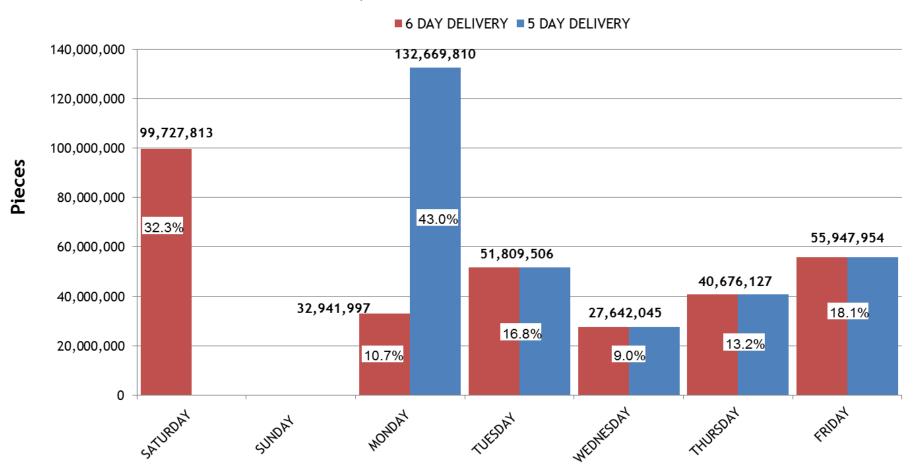
#### NATIONAL STC BY DAY OF THE WEEK ANALYSIS QTR 1 2013





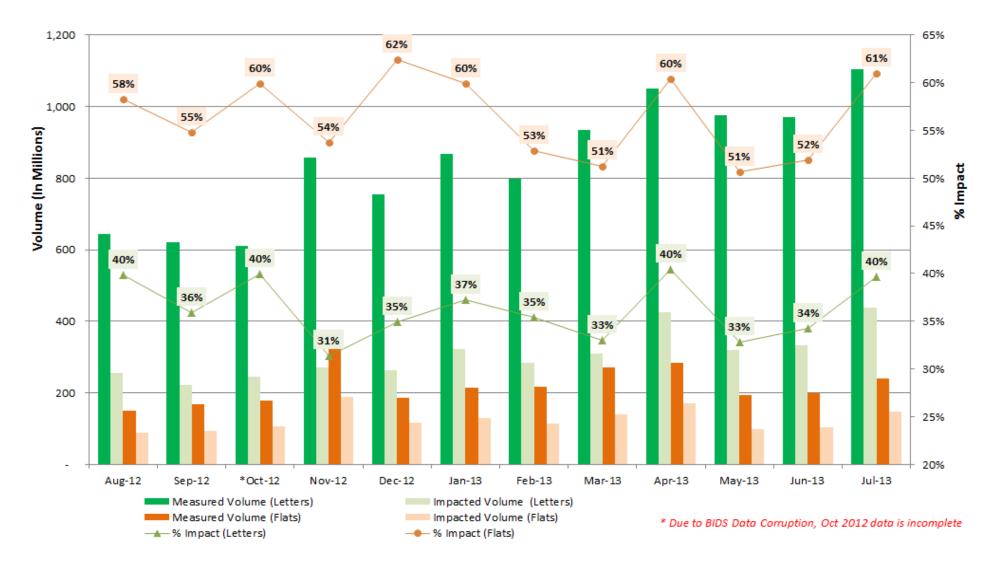
# SCF Destination Entry Periodicals Delivery Day Volumes Analysis

#### SCF Periodicals Flats QTR 1 FY 2013

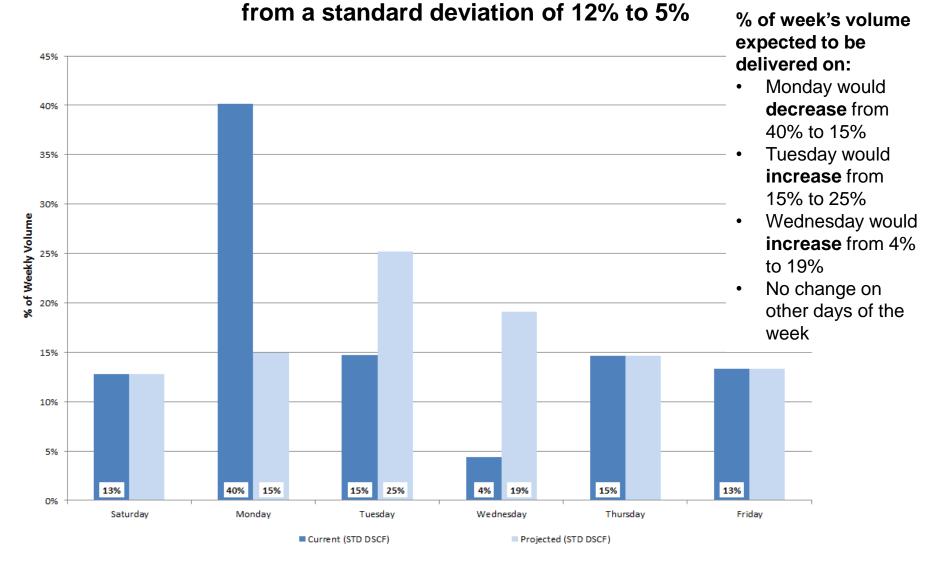


# Based on historical data, ~40% of Standard DSCF Mail is projected to be impacted if Sunday was a non-processing day.

Letters impacted ~36%; Flats impacted ~56%



If Sunday was a non-processing day, the variation in Standard DSCF mail volume by expected day of delivery is projected to decrease



Standard deviation for daily Standard DSCF Letters mail volume is projected to decrease from 10% to 3%; For Flats, it is projected to decrease from 20% to 12%

#### **Standard DSCF Letters**

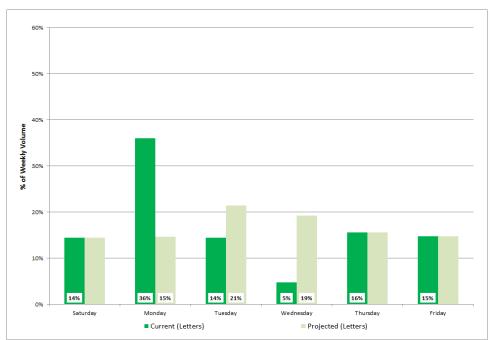
#### % of week's volume expected to be delivered on:

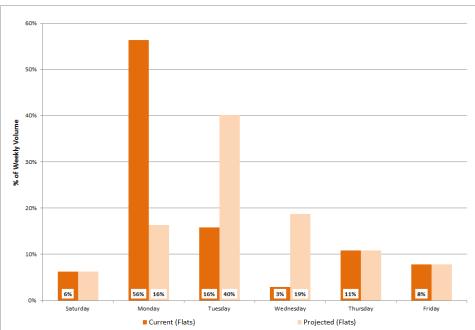
- Monday would decrease from 36% to 15%
- Tuesday would increase from 14% to 21%
- Wednesday would increase from 5% to 19%

#### **Standard DSCF Flats**

#### % of week's volume expected to be delivered on:

- Monday would **decrease** from 56% to 16%
- Tuesday would increase from 16% to 40%
- Wednesday would increase from 3% to 19%







#### **SCF Standard Drops - Current**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Color code for	Color code for	Color code for Friday	Collor code for	All Day is color	Color code for	Color code for
Wednesday until 1600	Thursday until 1600	until 1600	Saturday until 1600	coded for Monday	Monday until 1600	Tuesday until 1600
1600 - Thurs Violet	1600 - Fri Yellow	1600- Sat Pink	1600 - Monday		1600 - Tues Orange	1600 - Wed Green

#### **SCF Standard Drops - Future**

#### **South Jersey Test**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Color code for	Color code for	Color code for Friday	Color code for	Color code for	Color code for	All day is color
Wednesday until 1600	Thursday until 1600	until 1600	Saturday until 1600	Monday until 1600		coded for Wednesday
1600 - Thurs Purple	1600 - Fri Yellow	1600- Sat Pink	1600 - Monday Blue	1600 - Tues Orange	1600 - Wed Green	

Taking out Sunday as a transit day will smooth the mail volumes across days of the week

- Two weekends in September 9/14 and 9/21
- South Jersey will be the test site
- Standard mail only Letters and Flats
- Change color code according to new layout
- Analyze the results
  - Impact to the industry
  - Hours saved
  - Volume to carriers across Monday and Tuesday
  - Impact in five day environment



- HUB Workgroup kick off
  - June 24, 2013
- Weekly meetings to discuss
  - Use of HUBS for each mail class and shape
  - System changes



## **User Group 7 - MTEOR**

#### **MTEOR**

The purpose of the user group is to identify and recommend opportunities for future enhancements to the MTEOR program.

Co-Leaders: Industry - Steve Colella USPS - Nancy Paradice

Kick-off: July 23, 2013 Meeting: Every three weeks

#### **MTEOR Enhancements - Areas of Focus**

- Ease of Use
- Communication
- Mailer order history reporting
- Report generation capabilities



# **MTEOR Update**



## MTEOR continues to be successfully used by Mailers and Postal Plants:

#### **MTEOR - MTESC Mailer**

- Orders (since September 5, 2013)
  - 443 MTESC Mailers are currently registered for MTEOR
  - 29,092 orders were placed through MTEOR
  - Over \$285 million worth of MTE ordered
- Inventory (since April 15, 2013)
  - 405 Mailers reported their inventory at least once (91% of total)
  - **54 Mailers have reported** every week (12% of total)
  - 38 Mailers have never reported (9% of total)

#### **MTEOR - Plant**

- Orders (since April 15, 2013)
  - 332 Postal plants are currently using MTEOR
  - 11,497 orders were placed through MTEOR
  - Over \$105 million worth of MTE was ordered through MTEOR



#### What is it?

Phase 2.a provides the ability to order MTE from Postal plants

## • Who does it impact?

- Local Mailers Mailers who only pick up MTE from Postal Plants will use MTEOR to request MTE
- MTESC Mailers Mailers who currently receive MTE directly from the MTESC will use MTEOR to either order directly from the MTESC or pick up from a Postal plant
  - MTESC Mailers should order MTE from the MTESC first.
  - MTESC Mailers should only request MTE from a Postal plant if they are willing to pick up the MTE themselves and the MTESC cannot fulfill their demand



#### ☐ The launch timeline is:

 Pilot launch at three pilot plants and approximately 125 Local Mailers on October 7, 2013



- Full launch beginning February 2014 in a phased roll-out by Area
- We are working with Mailers and Postal plants to enhance the existing applications and prepare for the upcoming pilot
  - MTAC Workgroup
  - MTEOR Plant Collaboration Group (MPCG)



# **INITED STATES**POSTAL SERVICE® Training and Communication Schedule

	August 2013			Sep	tember 2	2013		October 2013				
	Wk. of 8/12	Wk. of 8/19	Wk. of 8/26	Wk. of 9/02	Wk. of 9/09	Wk. of 9/16	Wk. of 9/23	Wk. of 9/30	Wk. of 10/07	Wk. of 10/14	Wk. of 10/21	Wk. of 10/28
Bulletins												
August Bulletin		•										
September Bulletin						•						
October Bulletin										•		
Training Webinars												
Local Mailers								<b>•</b>	$\Diamond$			
MTESC Mailers								•	$\Diamond$			
MTAC Meetings												
Full Group			•									
User Group #7				•			•			<b>\</b>		
RIBBS Website												
Launch of Local Mailer Page					•							
FAQs Posted					•							
Other Communications	s to Pilot I	Mailers										
Launch E-Mails					•	•	<b>♦</b>	<b>♦</b>	<b>\rightarrow</b>			
Feedback Survey									2000			•

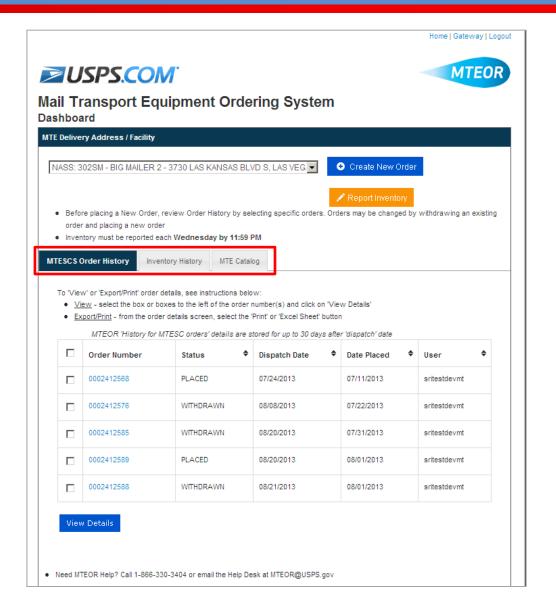
Launch



## UNITED STATES Upcoming MTEOR Enhancements

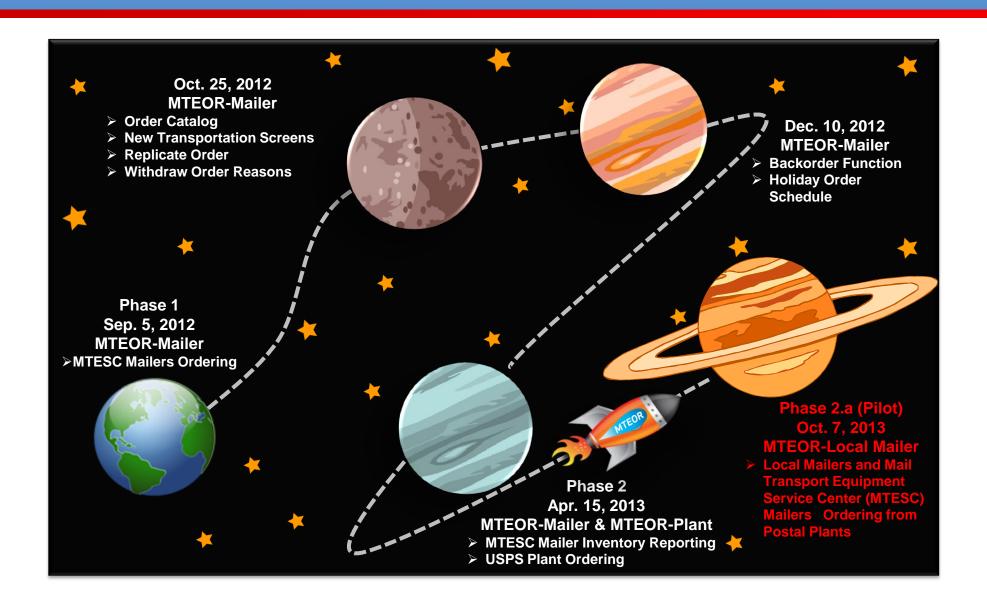
## New MTEOR Dashboard launches October 7, 2013

Users will now be able to view key information such as MTESC Order History, Inventory History, and the MTE Catalog on separate tabs on the dashboard rather than viewing them all on one page





## MTEOR's Path





# Mail Prep & Entry Steering Committee Update



## Mail Prep and Entry Ideas Log

- 116 ideas submitted to date
  - 35 closed
    - Out of scope, withdrawn or re-assigned
  - 11 completed
    - Postal Bulletin articles and DMM revisions announced
  - 29 remaining in Benefit/Effort matrix
    - 9 new items that need evaluation
  - 41 open need Change/Improvement template submitted or idea withdrawn



## 20-24 oz Periodical Engineering Test

- Evaluate increasing max PER weight to 24oz for co-mail pools
- Determination of more specific impacts to each machine will require testing
- We now have a commitment from two mailers to provide test mail
- Plan on testing FSS & AFSM100 in October at Linthicum and Engineering/Merrifield

## **Subgroup Update – FSS Prep Requirement**

## Re-opened FSS subgroup

- Still active discussion on current and proposed requirements
- FSS entry points (FSS Site & Feeder Locations)
- Pallet and Bundle size
- Explore additional members for group



- Commingled BPM Auto Flats with Standard Mail Flats
  - Due to software coding effort required it can not be included in January 2014 release
  - Possible release in July 2014



## **DMM Pallet Stack Regulations**

## 705.8.3 Stacking Pallets

## 8.3.1 Physical Characteristics

Pallets may be stacked two, three, or four tiers high if:

- a. The combined gross weight of the stacked pallets (pallets, top caps, and mail) does not exceed 2,200 pounds.
- b. The heaviest pallet is on the bottom and the lightest is on the top.
- c. Individual pallets are secured with straps or stretchable or shrinkable plastic as specified in <u>8.1.3</u>.
- d. The stack of pallets is secured with at least two straps or bands of appropriate material to maintain the integrity of the stacked pallets during transport and handling. Wire or metal bands, straps, buckles, seals, and similar metal fastening devices cannot be used. The stack of pallets cannot be secured together with stretchable or shrinkable plastic.
- e. Each pallet is top-capped as specified in 8.2.
- f. The combined height of the stacked pallets and their loads does not exceed 84 inches. Exception: Pallets prepared for entry at Anchorage or Fairbanks, Alaska, cannot exceed 72 inches (pallets, top caps, and mail).



## **DMM Pallet Stack Regulations**

## Top Caps 8.2.1 Use

Top caps are used as follows:

- a. Except as provided below, all pallets of sacks, trays, parcels, bundles of mail, or pallet boxes must be top-capped if the pallets are stacked two, three, or four tiers high when presented to the USPS for acceptance.
- b. The top pallet need not be top-capped if the strapping or banding securing the stacked pallets together neither damages the mail on the top pallet nor allows the stack to shift.
- c. Lower pallet(s) containing either parcels or bundles of mail need not be top-capped if the top surface of each pallet load provides a sturdy, flat surface, parallel to the pallet base, that allows safe and efficient stacking of pallets placed on top and prevents sliding of the top pallet(s), damage to the loaded mail, or crushing of the load.



## Max height of stacked pallets 84" (DMM 705 8.3.1 f)

One foot of mail estimated at 488 lbs Pallet weight is 16lbs

Current max is 4 pallets high & 2,200 lbs

Mail 12" Plastic Pallet 6" Mail 12" Plastic Pallet 6" Mail 12" Plastic Pallet 6" Mail 12" Plastic Pallet 6"

With 12" mail (450-488 lbs per pallet)
Max 4 pallets @ 72" high
(12" and 200 lbs remain)
Estimated total ~ 2,000 lbs

Mail 6"
Plastic Pallet 6"
Mail 6"
Plastic Pallet 6"
Mail 12"
Plastic Pallet 6"
Mail 12"
Plastic Pallet 6"
Mail 12"
Plastic Pallet 6"

With mixed pallets
(244-488 lbs per pallet)
Max 5 pallets @ 78" high
(6" remain)
Estimated total ~ 2,030 lbs

Mail 6"
Plastic Pallet 6"
Mail 6"
Plastic Pallet 6"
Mail 6"
Plastic Pallet 6"
Mail 6"
Plastic Pallet 6"
Mail 12"
Plastic Pallet 6"
Mail 12"
Plastic Pallet 6"

With mixed pallets (244-488 lbs per pallet)
Max 6 pallets @ 84" high (0" remain)
Estimated total ~ 2,050 lbs





## Mailer Example

5 pallets high Combination flats / trays

## 80 inches

This is a mix and pallet height make up that is diminishing due to more low volume pallets for SCF





# Mailer Example: 6 pallets high all Trays Under 80 inches total

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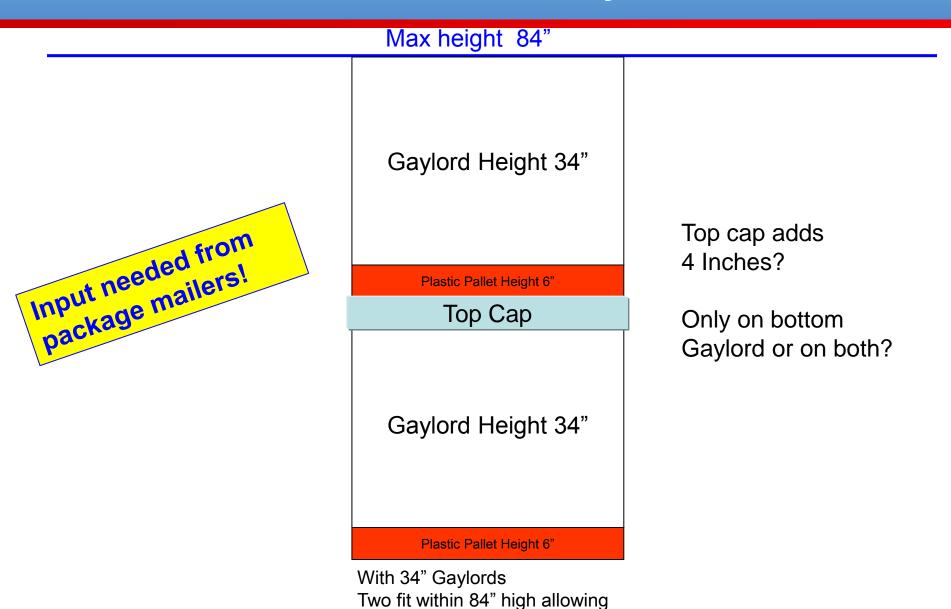


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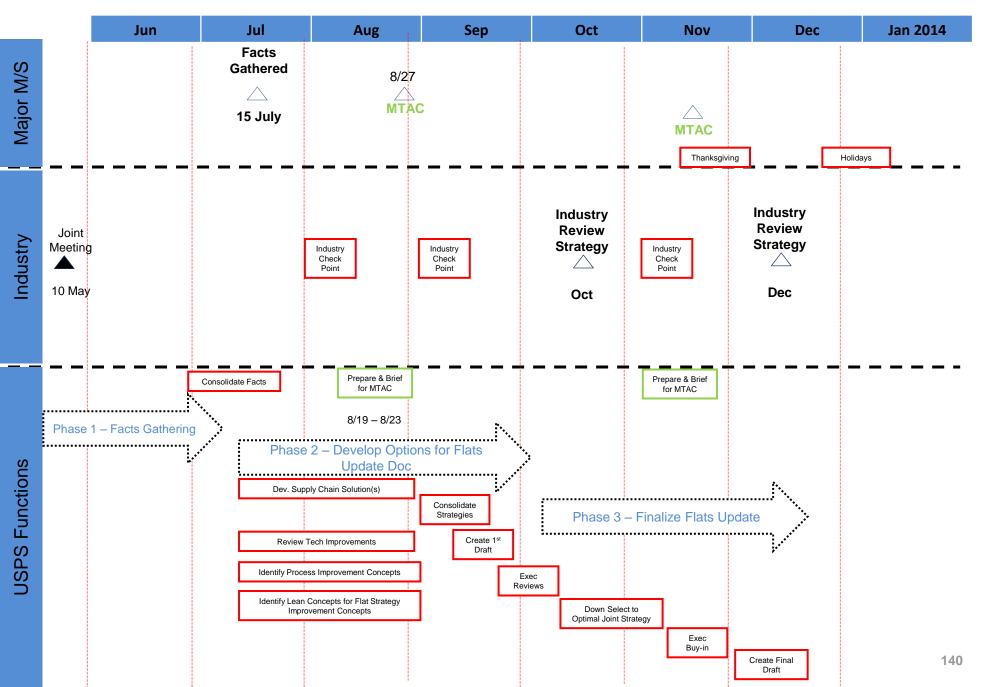
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- Project charter
- Project plan
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- Weekly updates to USPS leadership
- Face-to-face meetings and webinar discussions with industry

#### **Flats Document High Level Timeline**







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## **Network Rationalization Open Discussion**



## **Progress to Date of Consolidations**

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129 (87.8%) of 2013 Consolidations Completed



# Progress to Date of FY13 Mail Moves Calendar

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National Total	620	2	42	2	1	1	668

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## Mail Direction File & Labeling Lists Open Discussion



## **Open Discussion**



# MTAC Mail Prep & Entry Focus Group Packages Track

August 28, 2013

- Packages Track
  - Action Items from Last Meeting
  - Workgroup Updates
  - MTEOR Update
  - Mail Prep & Entry Steering Committee Update
  - Network Rationalization Open Discussion
  - Open Discussion



- Action Items from Last Meeting
  - Investigate non-machineable package pricing anomaly
  - Post MOP Matrix & Flows on MITS
  - Investigate system issues with redirection exceptions for eVS



## **Workgroup Updates**



## **Workgroup Updates**

- WG 154 Alignment of Parcel Dropship Files and Labeling Lists
- WG 156 Utilizing the Mail Optimization Matrix (MOP)
- WG 157 Load Leveling
- WG 159 HUBs
- UG 7 MTEOR



- Alignment of Parcel Dropship Files and Labeling Lists
  - System changes
    - Align L606 and FAST Mail Direction File
    - Align pre-sort and entry with Parcel File
      - Long term suspension of parcel file
    - Weekly publication of mail direction file (5-digit)
      - 30-day grace date for mail direction file
    - Quarterly update to labeling lists (no change)
    - Implementation January 2014



## Utilizing the MOP to identify and organize improvement opportunities

- Current Status
  - Workgroup meetings complete
  - MOP and supporting documents developed
  - Created prioritized list of opportunities
- Final Step
  - Compete templates for submission of top opportunities to Mail Prep and Entry Steering Committee



- HUB Workgroup kick off
  - June 24, 2013
- Weekly meetings to discuss
  - Use of HUBS for each mail class and shape
  - System changes
- Implementation
  - January 2014



## **User Group 7 - MTEOR**

#### **MTEOR**

The purpose of the user group is to identify and recommend opportunities for future enhancements to the MTEOR program.

Co-Leaders: Industry - Steve Colella USPS - Nancy Paradice

Kick-off: July 23, 2013 Meeting: Every three weeks

#### **MTEOR Enhancements - Areas of Focus**

- Ease of Use
- Communication
- Mailer order history reporting
- Report generation capabilities



## Mail Prep & Entry Steering Committee Update



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#### **Subgroup Update – FSS Prep Requirement**

## Re-opened FSS subgroup

- Still active discussion on current and proposed requirements
- FSS entry points (FSS Site & Feeder Locations)
- Pallet and Bundle size
- Explore additional members for group



- Commingled BPM Auto Flats with Standard Mail Flats
  - Due to software coding effort required it can not be included in January 2014 release
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## **DMM Pallet Stack Regulations**

#### 705.8.3 Stacking Pallets

#### **8.3.1 Physical Characteristics**

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One foot of mail estimated at 488 lbs Pallet weight is 16lbs

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With 12" mail (450-488 lbs per pallet)
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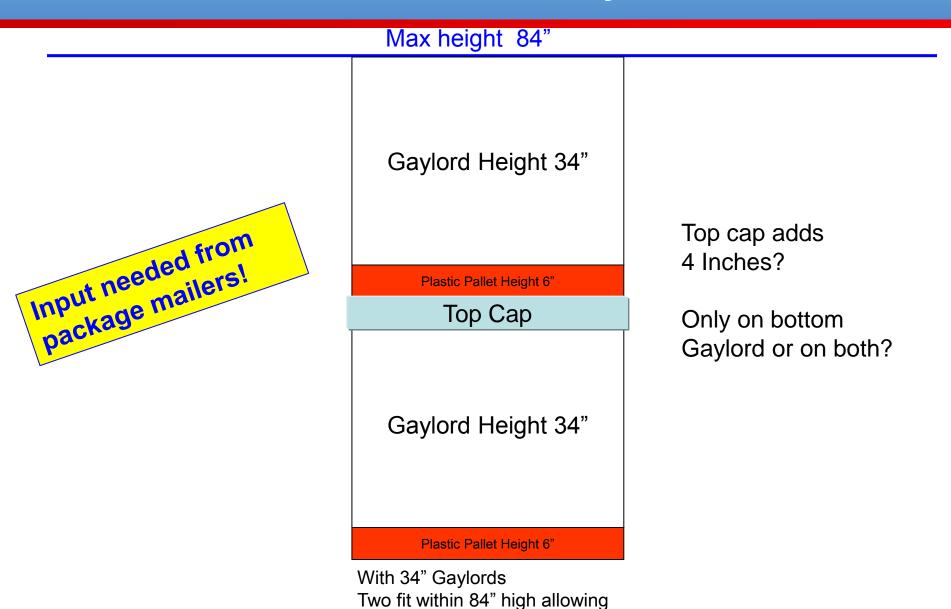


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## **Open Discussion**



# MTAC Mail Prep & Entry Focus Group First-Class Track

August 28, 2013

#### First-Class Track

- Action Items from Last Meeting
- Workgroup Updates
- CFS/PARS Consolidation
- MTEOR Update
- Mail Prep & Entry Steering Committee Update
- Update on Flats Strategy
- Remittance Mail Earned Value Initiative
- Network Rationalization Open Discussion
- Open Discussion



- Action Items from Last Meeting
  - Investigate Puerto Rico PARS issue
  - Provide CFS.PARS site list and associated ZIP Mapping
  - MOP Map out forward and undeliverable mailflows
  - MTESC quality check of plants sending MTE
  - Fall Mailing Season Webinar
  - MTEOR Update Webinar
  - Evaluate providing enhanced tracking data in next Earned Value Initiative
  - Provide Industry Alerts for Labeling Lists and Mail Direction File Changes
  - Message need for 6 Month Lead time for 6 to 5 Day



## **Workgroup Updates**



## Workgroup Updates

 WG 156 – Utilizing the Mail Optimization Matrix (MOP)

WG 157 – Load Leveling

■ UG 7 – MTEOR



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## **CFS/PARS Consolidation**



- USPS has reduced to 22 CFS Units operating in 2013
  - Consolidated to increase efficiency of remaining CFS units
  - Reductions due to PARS and individual Area initiatives
  - Memphis TN CFS has been relocated to Jackson TN
  - Potential move of Philadelphia PA CFS to Southeastern PA
- Further CFS consolidations are dependent on the implementation of:
  - Remote Forwarding System (RFS)
  - FPARS (PARS for flats) deployment in 2015
- PARS CIOSS processing operations now consolidated to 66 plants
  - Activated CIOSS processing at San Juan PR in July 2013
  - Plants without CIOSS processing operations are "feeder" plants, sending PARS letters to CIOSS plants for CIOSS processing
  - Consolidated to increase efficiency of CIOSS operations
  - Continue CIOSS site consolidations in 2014, reducing from 66 to 63 CIOSS processing plants



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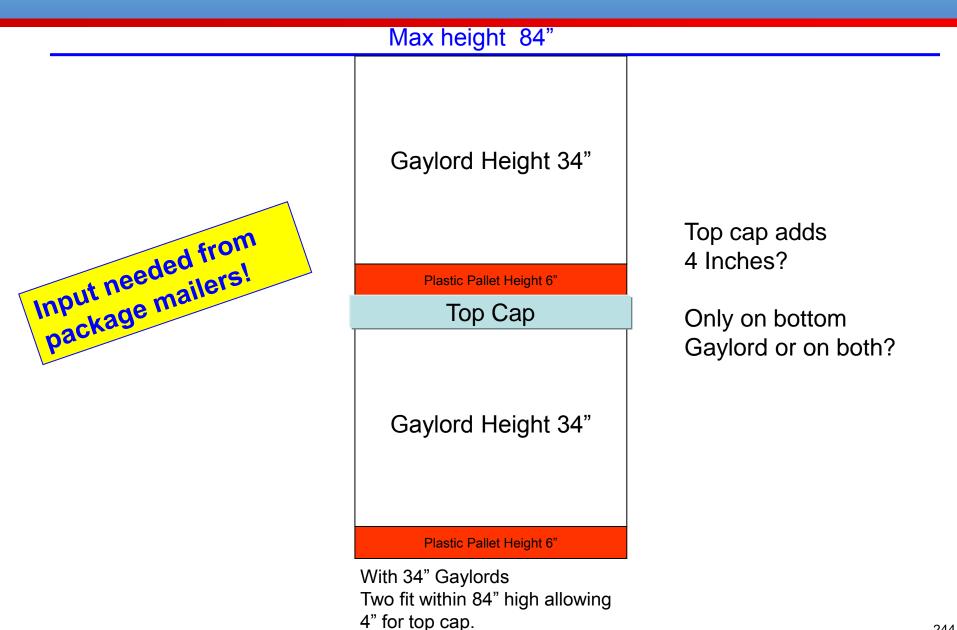


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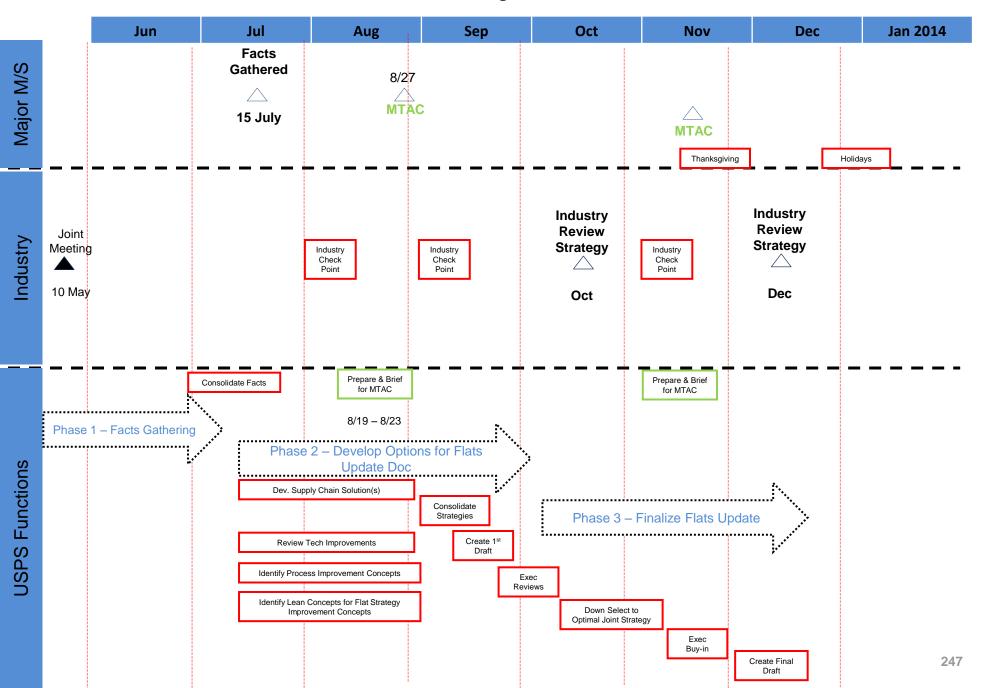
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# Remittance Mail - Earned Value Initiative

լեա | Մելիաիրիլի իրկանիկ հեն արագահանգ



#### **Earned Value**

- Registration Began: January 15, 2013
- Registration Ended: March 31, 2013
- Program Period: April 1 through June 30, 2013
- Awards Period: August 1 through August 31, 2013





- 639 customers enrolled
- Approx. 533 million CRM and BRM pieces were counted (April 1 June 30); total credit: \$10.66 million
- 270 customers have agreed and credits have been issued
- 10 customers have issues, one resolved
- Working to get approvals from all customers
- CRM represented 89% of total number of pieces counted; BRM was 11% of total
- Top 10 customers:
  - CRM is 54% of total CRM promotion volume
  - BRM is 66% of total BRM promotion volume
- Plan to offer Earned Value promotion again in 2014

## **Enhanced Data Tracking in Future Earned Value Promotions**

- Current method uses CRID, MID, ID tag to identify unique pieces
- Scan data provided from IMVIS to Alt P system
- Business rules in Alt P provide counts
- UG 4 sub-group on Reply Mail is working this issue
- Provided overview of ID tag during initial meeting
- USPS will provide detailed overview at next meeting
- USPS will report out on possibilities and work with sub-group on developing any agreed to solutions

#### Remittance Mail Redirect

Enables the redirection of time-sensitive payment mail addressed to one processing address to an alternate processing address

- Service leverages sort plans to redirect mail to one or more facilities across the USPS network
- •The redirection process is transparent to mailers of payment mail
- Redirection service can take place:
  - Temporarily where fast and dynamic redirection is needed
  - Permanently where reliable and efficient redirection is needed
- Successful Pilots:
  - 1.Woburn=>Pittsburgh
  - 2.Philly=>Newark
  - 3. Atlanta => Dallas



#### Next Steps:

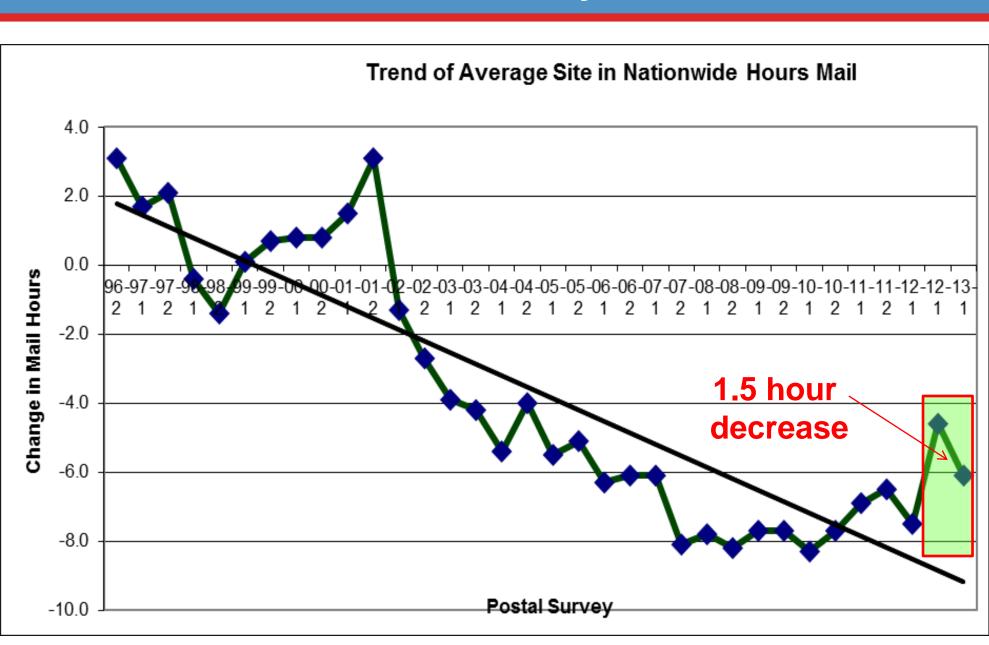
- Business Case completed
- USPS Senior Management approval is next
- PRC product filing

#### Phoenix Hecht 2013-01 Summary

- Mail time decreased by 1.5 hours, despite an accelerated Network rationalization schedule
- 40% of participants experienced an average improvement of 5 hours
- 47 surveyed sites and 14 cities had better results than the last survey
- 1 sites experienced mail time increase in excess of 6 hours vs 7 sites last survey
- 3 most deteriorated cities last survey were the
   3 most improved cities this survey



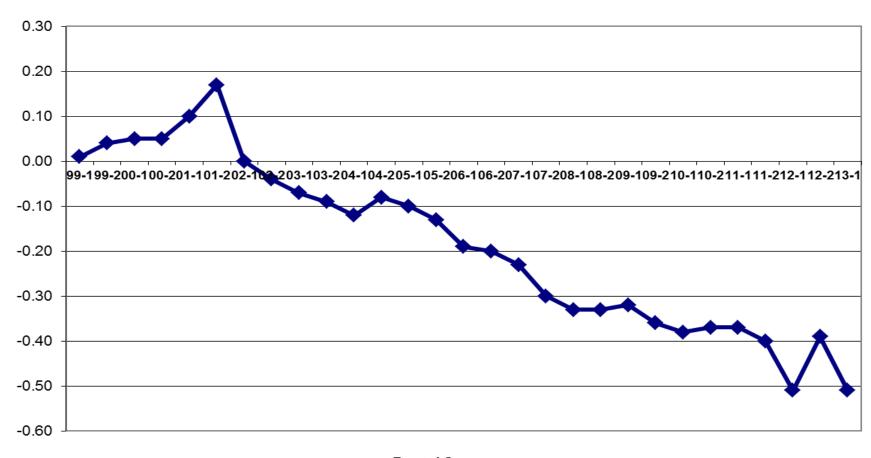
## PH Survey Trend (through 2013-01)



Change in Total Float Days

# PH Trend of Avg Site in Nationwide Total Float Days

#### Trend of Average Site in Nationwide Total Float Days





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